Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-208
Thursday
27 October 1994

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-208 *27 October 1994*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 27 Oct 1

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Yeltsin, Kozyrev Hail Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
Further Kozyrev Remarks *[ITAR-TASS]* 2
Clinton To Make Use of Middle East Success *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 27 Oct]* 2
Clinton Middle East Trip Previewed *[IZVESTIYA 26 Oct]* 3
Commentary Questions Continuing Presence in Gulf *[Moscow International]* 4
Kozyrev Leaves for Visit to Canada *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Heads Delegation to Meeting on Ukraine *[ITAR-TASS]* 4
Expected To Fly to Middle East *[INTERFAX]* 4
U.S. Downplays Ames Case *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 26 Oct]* 5
Debt Rescheduling Agreement Signed with United States *[IZVESTIYA 27 Oct]* 6

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Yeltsin Replaces Agriculture Minister *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Yeltsin Will Not Dump Premier, Power Ministers *[IZVESTIYA 27 Oct]* 7
No Agreement on Yeltsin 3 Oct Decree *[Radio Rossii]* 8
Text of Yeltsin Edict on Citizenship Law Published *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 26 Oct]* 8
Uranium Smugglers Apprehended in Pskov *[Russian TV]* 8

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Calls For Continuing Antiinflation Work *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Premier Predicts R72 Trillion Budget Deficit *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Specialists Leave for Site of Komi Oil Spill *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
Emergency Minister Says Oil Spill Cost R62 Billion *[Russian TV]* 10
Environment Ministry on Komi Accident *[Moscow Radio]* 10
Deputy Minister Says Oil Spillage 'Not a Catastrophe' *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Local Officials Deny Pechora River Polluted *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Komi Officials Say Oil Spill Consequenses Overstated *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Ecologist Estimates 200,000 Tonnes of Oil Spilled *[Russian TV]* 11
Workers 27 Oct Protest Seeks Economic Goals *[ITAR-TASS]* 12
State Wages Arrears Amount to R1.3 Trillion *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
Foreign Economic Relations Minister Holds Briefing *[IZVESTIYA 26 Oct]* 13
Price Inflation Leaps Following Ruble Crash *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 26 Oct]* 13

Military & Space Issues

Grachev Promises To Solve Army Finance Problems *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Defense Spending To Exceed R45 Trillion *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Grachev Views Army Reform in Kamchatka Speech *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 27 Oct]* 15
Call for 'Effective Civilian Control' of Armed Forces *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 26 Oct]* 15

Navy Ships 'On Continuous Alert' *[INTERFAX]* 16
Fuel Shortage Forces Postponement of Satellite Launch *[ITAR-TASS]* 16
Defense Order Decline Compounds Submarine Plant's Plight
[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 25 Oct] 16

Federal Assembly

Chernomyrdin Speaks at Duma; Not To Resign *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Says New Appointments Possible *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Says Russia Pulling Out of Crisis *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Comments on Ruble Status *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Most Duma Factions 'Not Impressed' *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Deputies Comment on Report *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Zyuganov Demands Change *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Communists To Support No-Confidence Vote *[ITAR-TASS]* 20
Russia's Choice To Vote for Confidence *[INTERFAX]* 20
Shakhray, Rybkin Express Confidence in Government *[Moscow Radio]* 20
Lower Chamber Adopts Small Business Bill *[INTERFAX]* 20
Duma Approves Suffrage Rights Bill *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Duma Adopts Law on Agricultural Procurement *[Russian TV]* 21
State Duma Adopts Law on Radio, Television *[Russian TV]* 21
Duma Rejects Draft Appeal Against Attacks on Military *[INTERFAX]* 21
Duma Committee Chairman on Farming Issues *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 22 Oct]* 22

Regional Affairs

Defense Minister Grachev Arrives in Kamchatka *[Moscow Radio]* 24
'To Rest' Rather Than Visit Bases *[Radio Rossii]* 24
Maritime Kray Faces Acute Fuel Shortages *[ITAR-TASS]* 24
Yeltsin Meets North Ossetian President *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Hijacker Detonates Explosion During Raid *[ITAR-TASS]* 25

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Middle East Peace *[ITAR-TASS]* 26
Kuchma Notes Intent To Give Up Nuclear Weapons *[ITAR-TASS]* 26
Kuchma Expects Financial Aid *[INTERFAX]* 26

National Affairs

Defense Ministry To Reduce Armed Forces *[Kiev International]* 27
Military Exercise Begins in Carpathians *[Kiev International]* 27
Nuclear Plant Closed in 'Level Zero' Event *[ITAR-TASS]* 27
Council Resolution on Address by President *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 25 Oct]* 27
Council Decree on Wages, Social Allowances *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 25 Oct]* 27
Justice Minister Details Judiciary Reform *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 20 Oct]* 28

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Chyhir To Expand Economic Relations With CIS *[ITAR-TASS]* 31
Chief Economic Adviser Interviewed on Strategy *[ZVYAZDA 21 Oct]* 31
Lukashenka Rejects EU as Alternative to CIS *[INTERFAX]* 33
Lukashenka Briefs Cabinet on CIS Summit *[Minsk Radio]* 34

Moldova

Official Discusses Russian Troop Withdrawal *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 26 Oct]* 34

Officials Fear Effects of Army Withdrawal *[BASAPRESS]* 34
Andronik Threatens Bucharest With CIS Troops *[EVENIMENTUL ZILEI 19 Oct]* 35

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Comments on Situation in Republic *[Moscow TV]* 36

Kyrgyzstan

EBRD Representatives Meet President Akayev *[Bishkek Radio]* 37
Akayev Able To Set Date for Elections *[INTERFAX]* 37

Tajikistan

Niyazov, Pakistani Premier Sign Agreements *[ITAR-TASS]* 37
Foreign Minister Meets CSCE Representative *[Dushanbe Radio]* 38
CSCE Experts Invited To Monitor Elections *[Dushanbe Radio]* 38

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Holds Talks With Pakistan's Bhutto *[Islamabad TV]* 38
More on Bhutto Talks *[Islamabad Radio]* 39
Rafsanjani Arrives in Ashgabat for Celebrations *[Tehran IRNA]* 39
Demirel Comments on Alawite-Sunni Issue, Energy *[Ankara TV]* 39
Natural Gas Agreement Signed *[Ankara TV]* 40

Uzbekistan

U.S.-Uzbek Joint Venture in Gold Extraction *[RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA 25 Oct]* 40
Supreme Assembly Election Preparations Continue *[NARODNOYE SLOVO 27 Oct]* 40

CAUCASUS

Armenia

'Sources' Say Azeris Receive Ukraine Tanks *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 41
IMF Negotiations Finished, Economic Program Developed
[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN] 41
Parliament Continues Session, Changes Laws *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 41

Azerbaijan

Baku Refuses To Allow Hijacked Plane To Land *[ITAR-TASS]* 41
Iranian Envoy, Aliyev Discuss Terrorism *[Tehran IRNA]* 41
Foreign Ministry Delegation Leaves for Vienna *[TURAN]* 42
Aliyev Comments Before Leaving for Turkmenistan *[Baku TV]* 42
Aliyev on Oil Deal; Gasanov on CIS Interference *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 26 Oct]* 43

Georgia

Abkhazia Claims War Damages from Tbilisi *[IBERIA]* 43
Deputy Interior Minister Gventsadze Dismissed *[IPRINDA]* 43
Shevardnadze Refuses TV Debate With Hunger Striker *[SAKINFORM]* 43
Mkhedrioni Building Blown Up in Telavi *[Moscow Radio]* 43

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Diplomatic Ties Established with Uzbekistan *[Tallinn Radio]* 44
Jordanian-Israeli Treaty Deemed 'Important Step'
[Tallinn Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release] 44

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 27 Oct

LD2710075494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0623 GMT 27 Oct 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow 27 Oct (TASS)—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA features prominently today an article about a vote of confidence to the government, due to take place at today's session of the State Duma. The newspaper writes that "the lower chamber of the Russian parliament approached in a calm and business-like manner the event that might become a sensation ... The State Duma is going to put to vote not the problem of confidence in the government, but the problem of confidence in its version of the future development of the country. The dividing line will split not only the State Duma, but also the government."

Analysing the political set-up in the State Duma, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes that, most probably, "there will be not enough votes the declare a vote of confidence in the government ...Opposition parties, which are to vote against confidence in the government, are not displaying the unity of tactics." Vitaliy Tretyakov, editor-in- chief of the newspaper, also writes about it in the article, entitled "Gaydar Supporters and Chernomyrdin Supporters: Who Will Get an Upper Hand?". He writes that "the two government parties are trying to overthrow each other .. The rest will follow their struggle and calculate their possible gains if this or that party wins." However, Tretyakov stresses, "the shadow of the knight commander, the president, will be present in the conference hall, because he can disrupt any political combination built by ingenious deputies to the State Duma and their analysts."

IZVESTIYA writes that "both the Kremlin and the White House regard as possible some personnel changes in the economic bloc of the government ... However, if the State Duma declares a vote of no confidence in the government, it may jeopardise its own position."

According to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, members of about all the parliamentary groups in the State Duma are critical of the government and very much displeased with the fact that neither the president, not Chernomyrdin found time to confer with representatives of the legislative branch before the debate starts in the State Duma.

The press gives wide coverage to another hijacking of a plane with passengers in Makhachkala. According to IZVESTIYA, anti- terrorist groups were put on high alert in all the regions adjacent to Dagestan.

"I have never planned, and will hardly plan in the future, to become president either of the Dniester region, or Russia," Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army deployed in the Dniester region, said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. Touching upon the situation in the Army, General Lebed pointed out that no plan of the Army reform has been drawn up so far. "The reforming of the Army has not yet been started ... There is neither mechanism of its implementation, nor finances."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA also analyses the situation in the army. The armed forces are living through a difficult period, but the results of the inspection of army units and naval ships by specialists from the command centres of the armed services are encouraging, the newspaper writes.

An IZVESTIYA correspondent writes from Minsk that "contacts between high-ranking officials and people, directly connected with the criminal world, are becoming an everyday practice in Belarus."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA frontpages articles dealing with the all- Russian protest action, scheduled for October 27. The newspaper publishes as well abbreviated texts of speeches of leaders of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation at the ninth plenary meeting of the central executive committee of the party.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA carries the draft labour code of the Russian Federation for its subsequent discussion.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Yeltsin, Kozyrev Hail Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty

LD2610141994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1330 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yelistratov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 26 Oct—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev passed on a message of greetings from Russian President Boris Yeltsin to participants in the ceremony to mark the signing of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, held today in the village of Wadi al-'Arabah on the Jordanian-Israeli border.

On behalf of the Russian president, A. Kozyrev congratulated all the parties involved on accomplishing the treaty. In his message Boris Yeltsin expressed the hope that "relations of true neighborliness and cooperation will be established" between Jordan and Israel, and that this agreement will be a major step forwards on the path to a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The Russian president's message reads: "The Jordanian-Israeli treaty is a major success for the peace process in the region, of which the United States and Russian Federation are cosponsors." Russia, it goes on, will continue to give every support to all efforts aimed at finally settling the chronic Arab-Israeli conflict until stability and security have been established in the region.

On his own behalf, the head of the Russian Foreign Ministry added that during the negotiations Israel and Jordan showed "immense political courage". Andrey Kozyrev gave an assurance that the Russian Federation will always support the desire for peace among the region's countries and will not relinquish its role until real peace has been established in the Middle East. The Russian foreign minister said that even after the return of stability to the Middle East, Russia will undoubtedly continue to cooperate with all states for the sake of building new relations and for the prosperity of all peoples of the Middle East.

Further Kozyrev Remarks

LD2610143394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1408 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Dmitriy Gorokhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] al-'Aqaba (the Jordanian-Israeli border) October 26 TASS—"We have arrived here to attend the signing of a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel." Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev stated here today. "We regard this event as a historical step, as a substantial contribution to the common efforts to achieve an all-embracing and fair Arab-Israeli peace. Russia, as co-sponsor of the Middle East settlement process, started in Madrid, and as a country which has its own direct and weighty interests in the region, had rendered assistance to the effort to achieve the Jordanian-Israeli agreements. We also plan to contribute to their implementation."

"I congratulate the Jordanian and Israeli peoples on this important event, which puts an end to the decades-long confrontation and sufferings. I sincerely wish them an early achievement of better living standards, a successful political dialogue, and fruitful cooperation in various spheres."

"I plan to present to His Majesty King Husayn a personal message from President Yeltsin, to discuss with the Jordanian leadership some pressing international problems, as well as ways to further strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation," the minister said. "I am grateful for the heartfelt welcome accorded us on the ancient land of Jordan," he added.

Clinton To Make Use of Middle East Success

MM2710092794 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Manki Ponomarev: "Treaty Signed, Problems Remain"]

[FBIS Translated Text] When readers receive this edition of the newspaper, the ceremony of the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan will have already been held. In the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton, Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, and other eminent guests from many countries, the leaders of Israel and Jordan will exchange texts of this treaty. Thus the war which has been going on for almost half a century between these states will finally be symbolically ended.

This fact in itself is of great significance. The latest phase in the long and difficult path toward peace in the Near East has been concluded. Under the treaty, Israel will return territories occupied back in 1967 to its eastern neighbor. The demarcation of the border will be carried out and the conditions of the division of the waters of the vitally important River Jordan are being outlined.

But that is not the only point. It is no accident that the solemn ceremony in al-'Aqaba took place with the participation of the U.S. President. The United States has scored its latest points in the sphere of its Near East policy.

At this time, Bill Clinton will not just visit Jordan. He has already been to Cairo, where he met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. He is scheduled to address the Jordanian parliament and the Israeli Knesset. And after that, the head of the White House will go to Damascus. Here he will conduct talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, during which the prospects of a Syrian-Israeli peace settlement will be discussed. And all this is against the backdrop of an ostentatious military action undertaken by the United States on the Kuwait-Iraq border.

Clinton intends to use the success of this action both in an externally and domestically. Externally, to demonstrate the U.S. might and resoluteness in resorting to

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

force to the Near East states, and indeed many other countries in the world. Let them know what America is like. Domestically, the idea is to show to the country's voters, who will have to elect new senators and members of the House of Representatives in two weeks' time, that Clinton and his party—the democrats—are exactly what they need. That is why the President indents to visit Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and, as supreme commander-in-chief, meet with the U.S. servicemen who have been sent there, and whose presence there will, incidentally, cost about $5 billion or even $8 billion—but this will be totally paid for not out of his own tax-payers' pockets, but out of a specially created fund for the support of Kuwait, which the Arab states of the Persian Gulf and certain other countries belong to.

And so, U.S. policy-makers would very much like to present Clinton's four-day tour of the Near East as a U.S. triumph. Yes, they have certain grounds for being triumphant. But not for behaving as pompously as they are doing today. First of all, by no means everyone is unconditionally approving of the Jordanian-Israeli treaty. Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, for example, refused to participate in the ceremony of its signing, believing that it infringes on the interests of the Palestinians. There are a lot of critics of this treaty both in Jordan and in Israel itself. And second, blood is continuing to flow in the Near East. Every day brings new reports of terrorist acts committed by Islamic extremists, or about Israel firing at South Lebanese territory, or else about the deaths of Palestinians.

Until peace treaties are signed between Israel and all the remaining Arab states with which it is in a state of war, and until the peace settlement process is concluded, the situation in the Near East region will remain alarming.

Clinton Middle East Trip Previewed

MM2610170194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Oct 94 First Edition p 3

[Report by Vladimir Nadein: "Clinton Has Flown to Near East To Win Hearts of Oklahoma Farmers"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington—Having flown halfway round the country in a week, President Clinton has acquired nearly $1 billion for his party's election campaign. The final dinner, which, like the others, cost each guest $300, was held at the Cleveland City hall, Ohio.

After an exhausting tour from New York and Boston to Seattle and Cleveland, speaking three or four times daily, Bill Clinton has improved his dangerously low rating. But all this is only the prelude to the main event—a four-day visit to the Near East.

The White House, which has not seen the president for nine days, was the venture for a brief stopover for Clinton. In the morning his aircraft set off for Cairo—the first of four planned stops.

The talk with President Husni Mubarak will be the most pleasant unless, of course, you count the final meeting in Saudi Arabia, where Bill Clinton will be welcomed not by heads of state and government but by U.S. soldiers and officers sent here to deal with Saddam Husayn if he gratifies the administration by giving a pretext for resuming the war in the Persian Gulf.

Events of the past few days have made the eminent U.S. guest's presence not so unequivocally a cause for celebration as was believed at the moment when the White House agreed to visit Tel Aviv. Even then, indeed, the future of Israeli-Palestinian cooperation seemed unstable enough. But the blowing up of the bus in Tel Aviv with two dozen victims brought the already alarming situation close to deadlock.

Faced with the need to ensure security, the Israeli Government decided to restrict completely access to Israel for Palestinians from Gaza and Jericho. Essentially it is a blockade of the territories transferred to the control of Yasir 'Arafat. Romanians, Bulgarians, Chinese, and Thais—a total of 35,000 to 54,000 people—will be invited to work on construction sites in place of the Palestinians. That means that even if the blockade is lifted—and so far no end to it can be seen—60,000 Palestinian construction workers who come to Israel every day will be without work or the chance of work. The threat to the autonomous body's future becomes serious.

President Clinton's last speech to his compatriots showed that the U.S. Administration regards this as the main danger. B. Clinton said that everyone, including the United States, should not so much put pressure on 'Arafat as "increase his opportunities to influence events." He returned several more times to this idea in various forms, asserting that "we must expand his ('Arafat's) opportunities for observing the (peace) agreement."

The Near East is laying border lines in the United States itself. William Safire, the influential NEW YORK TIMES observer, has sharply criticized Clinton's forthcoming visit to Damascus. "Visiting a country which is on our list of terrorist states means essentially removing it from that list," Safire asserts. "Clinton's visit is an honor which has been sought for so long by al-Asad, who spent 17 years trying to undermine the al-Sadat-Begin initiative and who supports the Hizballah terrorist organization in Lebanon nurtured by Iran."

While talking with the presidents, premiers, and monarchs, president Clinton will be absorbing news from home with every pore. Because the main task of his trip is to change feelings in the United States, persuading his compatriots that they have a good president and that there is a good democratic party standing behind the president and that it is the duty of good Americans to vote for them at the midterm elections 8 November.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Commentary Questions Continuing Presence in Gulf

LD2610173794 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Commentary by Yevgeniy Krishkin; from the "News and Views" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Next, Yevgeniy Krishkin looks at the situation in the Persian Gulf and here is what he writes.

The crisis in the Persian Gulf triggered by the Iraqis' movement of troops close to the Kuwaiti border some weeks ago, can now be said to have been resolved peacefully. The Iraqi troops, including the elite Republican Guards, have been redeployed to the north from the 32nd Parallel.

However, signs of the crisis can still be seen and felt. One of such signs is the U.S. presence in the area. To compound the situation, the United States resorted to a massive deployment of forces in the Persian Gulf. At present there are about 28,000 American troops in the Persian Gulf area. The United States has about 270 warplanes, 17 warships, including the aircraft carrier George Washington, in the Persian Gulf.

According to statements made by some Pentagon officials, the United States is not preparing to halt the dispatchment [as heard] of troops to the Persian Gulf for the moment, let alone the reduction of the number of forces already in the area.

If we take into account that the changes that have taken place make the presence of the United States forces in the Persian Gulf now unnecessary, then the continuing presence of American forces in the area cannot but give rise to a number of questions. For example, how long will the United States forces stay in the Persian Gulf? What is or are U.S. aim or aims in the area? And finally, will Washington not be using the political miscalculations of the Iraqi leadership to strengthen its presence in the region, which has an important strategic and economic significance in the world community?

These are far from the run of the mill questions. There is information that the American armed forces command is planning a series of training exercises on the territory of Kuwait in conjunction with Kuwait's Army units. Additionally the United States and Great Britain are trying to give their own arbitrary interpretation to UN Security Council Resolution 949 on the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the Kuwaiti border.

It would appear that both countries believe that the UN resolution gives them the right to attack Iraq without seeking UN approval, despite the fact that on Russia's insistence the provision that could have served as a basis for the use of force against Iraq was deleted from the UN resolution.

In the past the enlargement of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf area had [as heard] been a destabilizing factor. This point must not be forgotten today.

Kozyrev Leaves for Visit to Canada

LD2710053894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0531 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow 27 Oct (TASS)— Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev left for Winnipeg on Thursday. He will take part in the international conference "Partnership for Economic Reforms in Ukraine" in this Canadian city.

The states of the G-7 group and the European Union have sent their delegations to the meeting. CIS countries are represented by Russia, Ukraine and Turkmenistan as well.

The International Monetary Fund and other leading financial structures will participate in the discussion.

Heads Delegation to Meeting on Ukraine

LD2610175094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1645 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 26 ITAR-TASS—The Russian delegation to the international conference due to be held in Winnipeg, Canada, on October 27, will be lead by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, ITAR-TASS was told by Grigoriy Karasin, the director of Russian Foreign Ministry Information and Press Department. The conference's agenda is partnership for economic reform in Ukraine.

"Russia from the very outset endorsed the idea of the conference proposed at the Naples meeting of "Great Seven" countries," the Foreign Ministry official said. "With the high level of the Russian- Ukrainian relations and the importance attached by the Russian leadership to the conference's success in mind, it was decided that the Russian delegation to the conference would be lead by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev," he said.

Speaking on Russia's stand at the conference, Karasin said "the Russian side will press the largest developed states and international financial organisations for generating concrete measures for assisting Ukraine on a scale comparable with Russia's moves."

Kozyrev is coming back to Moscow tonight after his visit to Jordan, where he attended the signing ceremony of the Israeli-Jordan peace agreement. After a few hours in Moscow the foreign minister will leave for Canada. Kozyrev is expected to return from the Winnipeg conference early on October 28.

Expected To Fly to Middle East

LD2710134794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1203 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Officials in the Russian Foreign Ministry do not rule out the possibility that Foreign

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Minister Andrey Kozyrev will fly to the Middle East from Winnipeg, Canada, where an international conference on Partnership for Economic Change in Ukraine is being held.

A senior Foreign Ministry official told Interfax that Kozyrev planned to attend an international summit on economic issues of the Middle East and North Africa which will start in Morocco on October 30 and might fly from there to Damascus to meet with Syrian leaders.

Another diplomat told Russian journalists accompanying Kozyrev that, once the Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement had been signed, Syria came in the focus of attention.

He said that progress there was slow but sure. He made it clear that Russia could influence Syria to an extent. In particular, Russia could act as a guarantor of a peace settlement for Damascus and send its representatives to serve in international teams of observers which are expected to be deployed along the Syrian-Israeli border.

The Foreign Ministry official said that the Israelis had certainly to leave the Golan Heights and only the deadlines, stages and confidence building measures could be negotiated.

(For details today's Diplomatic Panorama)

U.S. Downplays Ames Case

MM2610161794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 6

[Commentary by Vladimir Kostin: "United States No Longer Threatening Those 'Perfidious Russians.' U.S. Special Services After All Unable—Or Unwilling?—To Explain Causes of Aldrich Ames's Downfall"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The case of Aldrich Ames and his wife, which was a major sensation of the year now drawing to its close, is beginning to be quietly forgotten. From time to time echoes of this sensation are heard in the mass media, but the intensity of passions is no longer what it was. The Americans scrupulously held an inquiry, uncovered the circumstances of this affair so unpleasant for them, and convicted the "Kremlin superspy." It would appear that that was the end of the matter. The inquiry is over, the incident has been consigned to history, and it is time to draw a line under the affair. But it is still too early to do so.

Two circumtances of this affair provoke questions and induce serious reflections.

When A. Ames was arrested, a real furor broke out. Apologies were demanded from Moscow, hard-hitting statements ensued from high-ranking figures in the U.S. Administration, and Congress met to examine the question of the impossibility of granting economic and financial aid to Russia. The exchange of personae non gratae in this context seemed nothing but a childish prank. The game was being played for big stakes—at issue was the future of U.S.-Russian relations. All this was at the very beginning, when the Americans still did not yet know what Ames had cost them. When all the details were revealed, it became clear that the Americans had more than serious grounds to be seriously angry. According to the assessment of the CIA's general inspector, Ames had inflicted "shattering damage" to U.S. national security. In the eighties he "blew the cover" of virtually all U.S. intelligence agents working against the Soviet Union. Soviet counterintelligence received a list of 36 U.S. and Western agents, and 55 secret intelligence operations were aborted and terminated.

Following these conclusions the storm of American wrath should have surpassed all possible bounds. The pragmatic Americans, to give them their due, seldom stop at half-measures, and when they have gotten their teeth into something they see it through to a finish. In this case something inexplicable happened. Washington apparently forgot the thunder and lightning that had raged in the corridors of power and the punishments they had only recently threatened the "perfidious Russians" with.

But this is not the most interesting detail in the Ames affair. For several months U.S. propaganda energetically whipped up "spy fever." The most diverse details concerning the spy couple appeared in the press—from what slippers A. Ames wore, to the amount he held in secret Swiss bank accounts. Such actions have been employed with regard to exposed agents before—the technique is well known and perfected. Press, radio, and television drooled at length over the most trifling details of the subversive activity of the failed spies—from the time of their recruitment to their inevitable arrest and punishment. The goal of such measures is also well known—to attract general attention to the scandal and demonstrate through specific facts the hopelessness of spying as a profession and the omnipotence of the U.S. special services.

The propaganda machinery was activated around the Ameses in roughly this same scenario.

Initially information was "leaked" to the press that pieces of the chalk with which he made secret signs while carrying out operations had allegedly been found in the Ames apartment. Not a very impressive piece of "evidence," to put it mildly, since if pieces of chalk are to be deemed seriously incriminating, half America's schoolchildren and almost all tailors using similar materials could have been just as successfully classed as spies.

Then reports appeared that the authorities had moved against Ames after studying the archives of the East German intelligence service, the Stasi. This story also did not stand up to criticism. It is hard to believe that information on such an agent could have been kept in the archives of another intelligence service or even have fallen into other hands.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

So what picture emerges? Ames worked in the special services for around 30 years, enjoying trust and repeatedly undergoing lie detector tests; he knew all the subtleties of the espionage kitchen from "A to Z"; and suddenly he meets his downfall. Why? To this day an intelligible answer to this question has not been obtained.

It is logical to ask another question: Perhaps he was brought down? If you agree with this supposition, it is possible to explain why the Americans so readily dropped the claims they had advanced and did not seek a showdown. Sooner or later in the course of negotiations they would have had to explain individual nuances relating to Ames's downfall, or to whoever brought him down. And they did not want to do this. Who knows, perhaps the CIA has its own Aldrich Ames in Moscow?

Debt Rescheduling Agreement Signed with United States

MM2710110194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Ivan Zhagel: "U.S. Treasury Under Secretary Not Scared by Ruble's Catastrophic Fall"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Lawrence Summers, U.S. Department of the Treasury under secretary for international affairs, and Russian Acting Finance Minister Andrey Vavilov signed an agreement in Moscow Tuesday [25 October] to reschedule payments on debts of $900 million to the United States. This agreement has enacted the accords secured in June between the Paris Club, comprising the official creditors, and Russia.

Addressing journalists L. Summers noted that this agreement illustrates U.S. support for the reforms being implemented in our country. This was also possible thanks to the IMF's approval in 1994 of the program of economic transformations in Russia.

Plenty of journalists' questions touched on a tricky subject, namely the fact that the agreement was signed straight after the catastrophic fall in the ruble's rate of exchange, which illustrates the slowdown in the pace of reform and, in this connection, support for the Russian Government seems somewhat strange. "I do not want to belittle the recent problems," L. Summers said, "but if we look at the situation in Russia in fall 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994 the progress is obvious. The process of economic reform can never triumph in a straight line. My acquaintance with the changes in the Russian financial system, the privatization process, and the government's plans to give up Central Bank loans to cover the budget deficit allows me to go back to the United States with encouraging news for the President."

It must be noted that, despite rescheduling the payment of $900 million, Russia is nonetheless due to pay the United States around $800 million this year. But by and large the agreements with the Paris Club have made it possible to defer for 10 years the payment of $7 billion on debts run up by the former Soviet Union. Russia's total debts today stand at around $83 billion. Debts to official creditors account for around $40 billion of this amount. Russia owes the United States around $5.4 billion.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Political Issues

Yeltsin Replaces Agriculture Minister

LD2710110794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1043 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin today released from duty Viktor Khlystun, the Russian minister for agriculture and food, at his own request and appointed Aleksandr Nazarchuk to this post.

Yeltsin Will Not Dump Premier, Power Ministers

MM2710095594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 1

[Article by Vasiliy Kononenko: "By Passing a Vote of No Confidence in the Government the State Duma Might Jeopardize Itself"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, 27 October, could well end up as "black" Thursday for V. Chernomyrdin's present Cabinet of Ministers. To judge from sentiments in the deputies' factions, the hearings scheduled for this day in the State Duma on the draft budget for next year will most likely be extremely acrid and politicized. According to various sources, left-wing and centrist factions are trying to create an antigovernment bloc (it could include the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, the Agrarian Party of Russia, the Democratic Party of Russia, and, maybe, "Women of Russia") and are prepared to carry out something like a purge of the cabinet.

A. Chubays, A. Shokhin, A. Kozyrev, P. Grachev, V. Yerin, and V. Khlystun have been selected as the present target. In the event of this action succeeding, the government's liberal-democratic wing would be removed—which would inevitably entail a radical change of economic course. At the same time, as the editorial office has learned from well-informed sources at the Kremlin, under no circumstances will B. Yeltsin "surrender" Chernomyrdin or, consequently, allow a scenario of a creeping takeover of power.

Of course, in politics promises are a highly unreliable commodity. We well remember how the president warned the deputies of the former Supreme Soviet and Congress that "he would not give up Gaydar" but then parted with him. In such cases deviousness or deception are not a very fitting explanation, since grand politics is always built on short-term and long-term interests. Let us therefore turn to logic, by which the president is compelled to be guided in the situation which has taken shape.

For him the State Duma is not a prop helping him to hang on to power. Such a prop is provided by the Cabinet of Ministers headed by Chernomyrdin, who has proved his complete loyalty to Yeltsin. Hence the firm conviction among the president's aides that, however the situation develops when the deputies vote on the question of confidence in the government, Yeltsin will not agree to such a sacrifice.

It is undoubtedly necessary to take account of the degree of delicacy of the situation connected with the information carried in the press alleging that Chernomyrdin sent the president a letter asking to resign. That conclusion was drawn after the collapse of the ruble rate and the president's decision to retire V. Gerashchenko and S. Dubinin. The premier was undoubtedly not himself. He came to Moscow, and it is most likely that in the course of a one-on-one conversation with the president there was some argument, whose nature we will never learn (no stenographic record of that conversation exists).

Nevertheless, people close to Yeltsin completely rule out the possibility that the premier really tendered his resignation in the heat of the moment. They are well aware of the technical procedure for recording such documents. Moreover, on the day that Chernomyrdin flew from Sochi to meet with the president the internal orders of the services which ensure the premier's work all denoted the hour of his return to Sochi, while his personal aircraft was standing "under steam," as it were, at Vnukovo-2 Airport.

Thus, there was, most likely, no tiff which might have prompted the frequently irritable and emotional president to make serious decisions. I have ascertained from Chernomyrdin's entourage that the premier "is not nervous" in this regard.

As for the opposition's attack on the liberals in the Cabinet of Ministers, cadre reshuffles should not be ruled out. It is the conviction of Kremlin analysts that the president himself made a mistake by suggesting to the Duma factions that they think about proposals for candidacies for responsible government posts. But he unequivocally will not agree to the power ministers' being replaced.

At the same time both the Kremlin and the White House admit the possibility of cadre changes in the government's economic bloc. There is talk of at least one vice premier and one liberal minister. The candidacies for the posts of the leaders of the Ministry of Finance and the chairman of the Central Bank also remain the subject of possible haggling. But even if cadre haggling commences, the president and the premier will do this in such a form and at such a time as to prevent this step from being regarded as a direct concession to the opposition. The option of granting a government portfolio to representatives of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia is ruled out.

The president cannot agree to a coalition government that is unable to function. Still less to a procommunist government headed, for example, by Yu. Skokov. He will be forced to maneuver and to propose again and again the candidacies of Chernomyrdin or a candidacy for the post of premier that is totally unacceptable to the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

State Duma. Use will certainly be made of such an instrument of pressure as the opinion of the leaders of the components of the Federation. In conversation with IZVESTIYA's correspondent the leaders of Karelia and Tatarstan came out against political vendettas during the budget hearings.

In other words, the president will bide his time through 12 December—after that date the State Duma automatically loses immunity and can be dissolved by a presidential edict, as provided for in the constitution. This would at once strengthen Yeltsin's positions, and the opposition bloc would have to agree to a new government headed by Chernomyrdin. Otherwise, the present State Duma will cease to exist ahead of schedule. In both cases a frontal clash between the lower chamber and the executive will not lead to success for intransigent deputies.

No Agreement on Yeltsin 3 Oct Decree

LD2610175494 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Once again the Federation Council has failed to agree on the presidential decree of 3 October on measures for strengthening a unified system of executive authority in the Russian Federation. At the proposal of Vladimir Shumeyko, chairman of the chamber, the discussion has been postponed until the next sitting.

The conclusion drawn up by the Committee for Constitutional Legislation and Judicial and Legal Issues, circulated today at the chamber's sitting, says that in this decree the president exceeded his powers. In accordance with the existing constitution, the president has no right to define the structure and functions of the bodies of state authority of the federation subjects, specifically, to appoint heads of kray and oblast administrations. The presidential decree of 3 October was discussed early this month and was given a mixed reception by legislators.

Text of Yeltsin Edict on Citizenship Law Published

MM2610165994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 1

["Edict No. 2007 of the Russian Federation President on Certain Questions of the Implementation of the Russian Federation Law 'On Citizenship of the Russian Federation,'" signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin and dated Moscow, the Kremlin, 24 October 1994]

[FBIS Translated Text] With the aim of protecting the human right to citizenship and safeguarding the legal interests of former RSFSR citizens returning to live in Russia, I decree:

1. In accordance with Article 13, Part One of the Russian Federation Law "On Citizenship of the Russian Federation" (VEDOMOSTI SYEZDA NAORDNYKH DEPUTATOV ROSSIYSKOY FEDERATSIYA I VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA ROSSIYSKOY FEDERATSII 1992, No. 6, page 243; 1993, No. 29, page 1112) former RSFSR citizens who returned to live in Russia before the entry into force of the Russian Federation Law "On Citizenship of the Russian Federation" (6 February 1992) who do not have confirmation of having acquired Russian Federation citizenship as a result of recognition and are continuing to live on Russian territory on a legal basis are to be considered Russian citizens. Formal documentation of their citizenship of the Russian Federation is to be produced at their personally expressed wishes.

2. In accordance with Article 20, Part Two of the Russian Federation Law "On Citizenship of the Russian Federation" former RSFSR citizens who left Russia before 6 February 1992 and who lost their citizenship not as a result of their own freely expressed wishes and who returned to take up permanent residence in Russia after 6 February 1992 are to be considered as having had their citizenship restored.

3. Russian Federation internal affairs organs are to draw up materials on the acquisition of Russian Federation citizenship with regard to people residing on Russian Federation territory on a legal basis irrespective of the length of their registration on Russian territory according to place of residence.

4. The present edict comes into force from the day of its publication.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[Dated] Moscow, the Kremlin
24 October 1994
No. 2007

Uranium Smugglers Apprehended in Pskov

LD2610180594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Our Pskov correspondent reports that the local counterintelligence officers have detained uranium smugglers who attempted to pass a 67-kg container of Uranium-238 to unidentified people. The experts say this radioactive substance is not used for military purpose. Three men detained live in Pskov; one of them works as a private security guard. The case is being investigated.

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Calls For Continuing Antiinflation Work

LD2710110694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0937 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told the State Duma on Thursday that it is impossible to improve the economic situation in the country without curtailing inflation.

"The government made its choice. We believe that no attempts to improve the economy by easing the financial policy, by consessions in fighting inflation will yield result," the prime minister told lawmakers.

He added that high inflation will not allow to solve the main problem of the Russian economic development—to attract investments, ensure a growth in production and raise the living standards.

The present-day inflation rate will not make it possible to achieve the targets. "If we indeed want to stabilise production and ensure economic growth in the coming 1.5-2 years, we have to curtail monthly inflation to 1.5-2 per cent level by the end of 1995", Chernomyrdin said and added that this would demand tough savings of all budget expenses.

"I fully understand that I am saying unpleasant things, but such is the situation now", the prime minister added.

He urged to work to ensure a breakthrough in the economic situation. "The world and our own experience show that macroeconomic stabilisation cannot be delayed for long, otherwise inflation ruins the economy as rust", he stressed and added that it is inflation which caused mutual indebtedness of enterprises.

"Inflation makes it profitable to invest in financial speculations, rather than into production", he said and stressed that "no matter how difficult it is we have to make a conclusion that the moderately tough financial policy which has been conducted so far has exhausted its potential. We have to correct the course and make the next decisive step", Chernomyrdin said.

Premier Predicts R72 Trillion Budget Deficit

LD2710111194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0958 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The Russian budget deficit is expected to total 72 trillion roubles (24 million USD according to the present exchange rate) and amount to 7.8 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), according to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

He told the State Duma on Thursday that budget proceeds in 1995 are estimated at 134 trillion roubles (14.5 per cent of the GDP), while spendings will amount to 206 trillion roubles (22.3 per cent).

The prime minister said the revenues are expected to grow through the implementation of adopted programmes, better tax collection and proceeds from privatisation.

Chernomyrdin believes two-three years will be necessary to carry out the tax reform. He said amendments to taxation legislation will be introduced in 1995 proceeding from corresponding economic decrees of the president and expressed hope that the Duma will adopt the tax code already this year.

The government plans to abolish seven federal taxes next year and to fix the maximum number of 10 local and regional taxes.

Although, he admitted that the Russian regions have the right to levy additional taxes, the prime minister stressed that they can be charged only on profits of enterprises remaining after all federal taxes have been paid.

The prime minister said that the government also plans to consolidate all non-budgetary funds and increase income tax on people earning "superhigh incomes". At the same time the minimum tax-free wages will be increased two-fold.

Chernomyrdin also stressed that the major tasks of the government are to avoid a decrease in appropriations for social needs, to better finance housing construction for the military and increase appropriations for anti-crime fight.

Specialists Leave for Site of Komi Oil Spill

LD2610165794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1536 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Marina Barinova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 26 Oct—A commission of the Russian Fisheries Committee, the Russian Federal Hydrometeorological Service, and the Russian Water Committee today left for the Komi Republic to investigate the accident at enterprises of the "Komineft" joint stock company. The specialists face the task of determining the real extent of the "emergency situation" and to map out measures to rectify it. It is headed by Viktor Kostin, Russian deputy minister for the protection of the environment and natural resources.

At the Russian Hydrometeorological Committee's press service an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told that "operational units of the ministry have been regularly monitoring the state of the water in the republic's rivers since 17 August, the day the accident occurred."

At a session of the emergency commission, which was held at the "Komineft" joint-stock company at the beginning of October, it was decided to install 52 km of new oil pipeline before 1 December 1994, to replace the one that was damaged, and to eliminate all consequences of the accident before 1 April 1995.

At the present moment, to prevent the oil from spreading, the more polluted sections have been filled in with earth. Aerial photographs are being taken to establish the extent of the spill.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Emergency Minister Says Oil Spill Cost R62 Billion

LD2610185294 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sergey Shoygu, minister for emergency situations, had this to say about the situation in the area of the Komi oil spill disaster at a news conference that ended about an hour ago: There is a snowfall at the moment, which makes the work more difficult, but it continues. More than 1,000 people are engaged in clearing up the spill. The estimated damage is over 62 billion rubles.

[Begin Shoygu recording] Naturally, if the actual size of the ecological damage had been revealed from the beginning—I mean, the extent of the oil spill—we would have raised the alarm immediately, without question, the very next day. [end recording]

The ministry specialists said that, fortunately, the Pechora River basin is not polluted.

Environment Ministry on Komi Accident

LD2610212694 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is likely to come out against oil development in the Caspian Sea region, Ekho Moskvy radio has learned from the Environment Ministry. Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin recently approved Azerbaijan's actions for developing oil fields in the central Caspian region. The Environment Ministry believes that developments in the Caspian Sea region will lead to the destruction of this unique nature site.

The Ministry of Environment told us that a special group of experts left for the ecological disaster in Komi yesterday and conducted their first studies today. The level of the concentration of petrochemicals in parts of the Pechora basin is within two to three admissible levels, which corresponds to the general background in these regions. The group is leaving for the administrative center of the Komineft association tomorrow to meet representatives of the association's nature protection bodies. According to experts, the tundra is already covered with snow, but ecologists managed to carry out an aerial photo survey of the area before the cold weather settled in. The Environment Ministry expects the results by the end of the week.

Deputy Minister Says Oil Spillage 'Not a Catastrophe'

LD2610140894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1331 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Karlov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 26 Oct—The ecological situation in the Republic of Komi following the oil pipeline accident is serious, but it is not a catastrophe, Viktor Kostin, deputy minister of the environment and natural resources told the ITAR-TASS correspondent today.

Asked by ITAR-TASS to comment on reports in some Western mass media about "catastrophic pollution of the Arctic," Kostin said that in fact as of 1400 on 26 October, the concentration of oil and oil products within 1,000 kms of the mouth of the Pechora river did not exceed acceptable limits. According to fish inspectorate bodies, no poisoned fish or fish smelling of oil have been found.

It is worth recalling that on 1 October near the town of Usinsk, torrential rains washed away a dam around the oil pipeline damaged in February 1994. According to the press service of the Ministry for Emergencies, this resulted in the spillage of some 30,000 tonnes of oil. The figure given by the Ministry of Environment, however, is twice as much, around 60,000 tonnes.

According to Kostin, the causes of the accident are being eliminated. Representatives of the Environment Ministry, the Russian Hydrometeorological Committee, the Fishing Ministry, the Ministry for Emergencies and other departments are working at the scene of the accident.

Local Officials Deny Pechora River Polluted

LD2610173694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1604 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By Itar-Tass correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Usinsk (Komi Republic), 26 Oct—Contrary to what the press is claiming, the accident outside Usinsk did not result in the pollution of the Pechora River, let alone the Barents Sea. Officials at the Komi Republic's headquarters for civil defense and emergencies made this statement to an ITAR-TASS correspondent today.

Sources at the headquarters believe that the scale and consequences of the accidents on the main oil pipeline in Usinskiy Rayon this August and September have been "greatly exaggerated" by a number of foreign and Russian mass media. The special commission that examined the territory polluted as a result of the accidents certifies that liquid containing oil did not go very far.

It was explained at the headquarters that liquid containing oil drilled in the northern fields of the Komi Republic and the Nenetskiy Autonomous Okrug passes through the main oil pipeline to headworks located near the town of Usinsk. There it is purified of water, paraffin, salts, and other impurities and the oil obtained is prepared for transportation to consumers.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The 43-kilometer stretch of this oil pipeline between the Vozdeyskoye oilfield and the headworks has completed its recommended service life after 20 years of use, has greatly deteriorated, and needs to be replaced completely and immediately. Breaks and discharges of water containing oil into the environment have become more and more frequent on this stretch. In August and September there were several thousand breaks there at once. According to data from the registering units [uzly ucheta] these resulted in more than 14,000 tonnes of oil being spilled. It should be noted that oil workers, scientists, and nature protection officers are still arguing as to the quantity of oil spilled.

The breakages on the oil pipeline were patched up in September and the spilled oil-containing water got into bogs, lakes, and streams where it was blocked by temporary hydroseals. As a result of heavy rains at the end of September, the temporary hydroseals on the Palnikshor and Bezymyannyy streams were destroyed and part of the oil got into the Kolva and Usa Rivers. The Kolva River was particularly badly polluted at the village of the same name, which has more than 400 inhabitants. According to eye-witnesses, the thickness of the film of oil-containing liquid reached 15 centimeters there.

Work to purify the riverside area near Kolva village has finished for today. More than seven kilometers of the banks have been cleaned up and more than 2,000 cubic meters of oil emulsions and soil have been taken away. It is planned to clear up the results of the accidents completely by the beginning of April in order to prevent oil-containing liquid being carried out along with spring floodwater into the rivers.

A special commission from the Emergencies Ministry of the Russian Federation arrived in the Komi Republic today. It intends to visit the sites of the accidents tomorrow and examine polluted territory in Usinsk rayon from a helicopter.

Komi Officials Say Oil Spill Consequenses Overstated

LD2610191394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1833 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Usinsk, Komi Republic, October 26 TASS—Contrary to press assertions, the breakdowns near Usinsk did not lead to the pollution of the Pechora, and still less, Barents Sea, officials at the Komi headquarters on civil defence and emergency situations told ITAR-TASS on Wednesday.

The headquarters officials believe that the scope and aftermath of the oil trunkline breakdowns in Usinsk district in August and September this year have been overstated by a number of foreign and Russian news media.

According to the findings of a special commission who surveyed the territory polluted as a result of the breakdowns, the petroliferous liquid did not spread far.

The headquarters officials said the petroliferous liquid, produced at the northern oil fields of the Republic of Komi and the Nenets Autonomous District, is supplied through the oil trunkline to the main purifying facilities near Usinsk. Over here, it is purified from water, paraffin, salts and other admixtures and the resultant oil is prepared for transportation to users.

The trunkline's 43-km section, running from the Vozdeysky oil field to the main purifying facilities, has been in operation for 20 years. It has exceeded its service length, is heavily worn out and requires immediate complete replacement. Ruptures and leaks of the petroliferous liquid into the environment began to happen increasingly often. Several tens of ruptures occured in this section in August and September, as a result of which, according to the metering stations, more than 14,000 tonnes of oil was spilled. It must be noted that oil-industry workers, scientists and environmentalists up to now dispute the amount of oil spilled.

In September, the oil trunkline ruptures were patched up. The spill had got into swamps, lakes and streams where it was blocked by makeshift floodgates.

As a result of heavy rains at the end of September, the makeshift floodgates on Palnikshor and Bezymyanny streams were destroyed and part of oil from there got into Kolva and Usa Rivers. The Kolva River was polluted most heavily near Kolva village where more than 400 people live. Eyewitness accounts had it that the thickness of oil film there mounted up to 15 centimeters.

As of now, work to clean up the river bank area near Kolva village has been completed. More than seven kilometers of the banks were cleaned up, with more than 2,000 cubic meters of oil emulsion together with earth being removed.

A task has been assigned to complete the elimination of the aftermath of the breakdowns before the beginning of april to prevent the discharge of the petroliferous liquid together with flood waters into rivers.

A special commission of the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations arrived in the Republic of Komi on Wednesday. On Thursday [27 October] the commission intend to visit the breakdown sites and survey the polluted territory in Usinsk District from helicopter.

Ecologist Estimates 200,000 Tonnes of Oil Spilled

LD2610190694 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Video report by correspondent R. Safronov, including recording of interview with V. Zamoyskiy, captioned as "an expert of the Social and Ecological Union"—from the "Vesti" newscast]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Translated Text] [Safronov] Independent experts from the Social and Ecological Union believe that the official figures concerning the amount of oil spilt after the accident in the Usinsk region are considerably lower than the real amount. The oil workers have revealed that 14,000 tonnes have been spilt.

[Zamoyskiy] Our estimate is much higher: We consider that no less than 200,000 tonnes of oil have been spilt.

[Safronov] A lower spillage figure has been reported because a fine of 1 million rubles has to be paid for each tonne of oil spilt. The last burst of the pipeline which occurred at the beginning of October was preceded by 14 other accidents which had happened in a space of just three months owing to pipe corosion.

[Zamoyskiy] The response to these developments was too slow. The situation was not duly reported to the committee for the environment; they discovered the spill themselves before the oil workers informed them of it.

[Safronov] Sixty percent of pastures in the region have been affected by the spill. Fishing has become impossible. It is supposed that the pollution has spread over the entire Pechora basin and will eventually reach the Arctic Ocean. The Ministry for Emergencies is dealing with the aftermath of the accident and the Social and Ecological Union will provide legal aid to the residents of the local villages affected by it. They will sue the oil industry for the damage caused by the accident.

Workers 27 Oct Protest Seeks Economic Goals

LD2610160294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1540 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—"The all- Russia protest action, scheduled by the trade unions for October 27, will pursue purely economic goals," Chairman of the Federation of Independent Russian Trade Unions Mikhail Shmakov told a press conference here on Tuesday. He said that the independent unions had "categorically dissociated themselves from the intentions of several political associations to impart a political hue to the October 27 action of protest against the falling living standards of the Russian working people". He said that the trade unions have called this action "only to correct the government's course". The economic orientation of the upcoming event is confirmed also by ITAR-TASS reports from different parts of the country.

Kyzyl—"There will be no meetings or pickets in the Tuva Republic on October 27 during the all-Russia protest action, although the local trade unions have solidarised with all the demands of the Federation of Independent Russian Trade Unions, addressed to the Government of Russia. The Tuva trade union leaders are careful in the choice of methods to pressure the authorities and do not want to upset the frail equilibrium in the region," ITAR-TASS was told by Vice-Chairman of the Republican Trade Union Federation Galina Tutynina.

Yekaterinburg—"The meetings held in Sverdlovsk region on the eve of the October 27 trade union action have so far voiced only economic demands. They demanded the "timely payment of deserved wages" and social allowances. They also protested against growing unemployment. Workers employed at many industrial enterprises, the military-industrial complex, and at local construction projects have not received their wages since April. They are not being paid allowances for their children. According to trade union figures, there are 50,000 jobless in the region. At least 25,000 more are expected to lose their jobs in 1995.

Kurgan—"Let's not cherish vain hopes that our meeting will force the authorities to pay all the wages they owe us. Nevertheless, this protest action will show once again that the working people disagree with the current socio-economic policy and are resolved to uphold their rights," Petr Nazarov, chairman of the presidium of the Kurgan Regional Trade Union Council, told journalists here on the eve of the all-Russia protest action of the trade unions. At least five thousand people are expected to attend the meeting in Kurgan.

Vologda—"The trade unions of Vologda Region support the all- Russia protest action, but refuse to voice any political demands," Aleksandr Pritychenko, chairman of the regional trade union federation, told ITAR-TASS today. He said that the Vologda workers planned to focus attention at the October 27 meeting here on purely economic problems. Most important, he believes, is the problem of unpaid wages, the total sum of which has topped 17 billions, and also the rapidly growing unemployment.

Kaluga—Irina Shalimova, secretary of the regional trade union council, told ITAR-TASS today that about ten thousand people were expected to come to the meeting in the central square of Kaluga on October 27. She said that the economic straits of the working people compelled them to take part in the all-Russia action. The state owes them 21 billion roubles in wages. There are about ten thousand registered jobless in the region, and 10,000 people are partially employed.

Bryansk—The council of the Bryansk Regional Trade Union Federation plans to hold a meeting here during the all-Russia protest action. It is expected to adopt a resolution and an appeal to the Russian Government and president, containing a package of economic demands—to stop the production slump, stem unemployment, suspend the second stage of privatisation. No political demands are planned.

Alma-Ata [Almaty]—"The executive committee of the Council of the Kazakh Trade Union Federation has solidarised with the demands of Russian workers for the urgent solution of their vital problems," says a telegram

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

addressed today to the Federation of Independent Russian Trade Unions in connection with the October 27 all-Russia action of protest against the further deterioration of the Russian population's socio-economic standards.

State Wages Arrears Amount to R1.3 Trillion

LD2610133094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1310 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—"The state's total debt as wage arrears to be paid to employees of budget sphere amounts to 1.3 trillion rubles [R] by the beginning of October," Russian Deputy Finance Minister Aleksandr Samusev said during a session of the government committee for improving the system of payments and accounting.

Samusev emphasised that the Finance Ministry intends to clear debts worth 300 billion ruble by the end of October. According to him, besides this the existing debts to social sphere, defence and law enforcement bodies will be cleared in full.

Foreign Economic Relations Minister Holds Briefing

MM2610155594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Aleksey Portanskiy: "Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Has Grievance Against World Economy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russia's practical integration into world trade is meeting with tangible resistance from the Western countries, Oleg Davydov, minister for foreign economic relations, has stated.

This can be seen clearly, in particular, in the example of cooperation with the European Union. Despite the agreement on partnership and cooperation between Russia and the European Union signed in the summer, to this day the latter operates quantitative restrictions on export and compensatory dues on antidumping procedures. As a result every year we fail to receive up to $3 billion in profit from foreign trade.

Not only the further liberalization of foreign economic activity but also the implementation of work with our Western partners for Russia's recognition as a country with a market economy are needed to emerge from the situation. Only then will any pretexts for discriminating against Moscow in world trade legally disappear.

We already have certain achievements on the path of liberalization. Thus Russia is now the only country in the world where there are no quantitative restrictions on imports while all countries with market economies have such restrictions, the minister emphasized. That, of course, does not mean that we should not take any protective measures but if we become keen on import duties then retaliatory steps will immediately be taken against us.

So the government has reached the following decision: Where duty is in excess of 30 percent it will be reduced over the course of three or four years as our internal market develops.

Oleg Davydov admitted that the drastic increase in imports of meat and poultry this year—by factor of 12 to 15 compared with last year—was quite unexpected for the government. That means that the organizational measures which have been taken in the field of agricultural production have so far failed to achieve the expected results.

As for the volume of exports, it is expected that this year it will increase by about 10 percent, and the excess of exports over imports will remain virtually the same—$14-16 billion.

Price Inflation Leaps Following Ruble Crash

MM2710130194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 3

[Report "based on figures from the Russian Federation Government Center for the Economic Situation's Administration for Price Analysis and Forecasting": "Prices for the Week 11-18 October: Black Tuesday Is Past, but an Indelible Mark Has Been Left"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the events of Black Tuesday and the subsequent emergency measures taken to check the unwarranted growth in prices, inflation last week registered 4.9 percent, which was one of the highest weekly figures of the current year. In the Center's estimation, the level of inflation during October will be the second-highest since January this year and will reach 15 to 16 percent. The drastic fluctuation in the exchange rate of the ruble affected the prices of food and nonfood goods to the greatest extent, the effect on charges for services being less marked. During the period 11 through 18 October the price of food increased by 5.1 percent, nonfood goods by 5.6 percent, and paid services to the population by 2.4 percent.

The reaction of sellers in Russia's largest cities was the most rapid and appreciable. In Moscow, for example, prices for basic food and nonfood goods had already gone up the day after the ruble crash. Measures taken by the Moscow government made it possible to check the accelerating processes somewhat. Nevertheless, during the past week the increases in prices for basic goods and services in Moscow and St. Petersburg—7 and 8 percent respectively—substantially outstripped the average increase for European Russia.

Prices for staple foods rose last week by 5.2 percent in the organized trade network and by 4.4 percent in the nonorganized trade network. Sugar became 13 percent more expensive, vegetable oil 11.4 percent, and eggs 8.6

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

percent. Moreover, prices for butter, confectionery, fruit, and vodka rose by 6 to 7 percent, while prices for meat products, groats and pasta products, flour, and salt went up by 5 percent.

Since the start of the month the following have increased in price more than other foodstuffs: vegetable oil by 25 percent, sugar 24 percent, and eggs 19 percent.

Foods have increased in price most markedly in the northwest region of Russia, where the percentage increase is 7.9. In the region as a whole during the week sugar became 24 percent dearer; eggs and vegetable oil 1 to 12 percent dearer; and meat products, butter, flour, and pasta products 8 percent dearer.

Food prices went up least of all last week in the cities of Eastern Siberia, where the figure was 2.8 percent. Even so, that change in prices is virtually equivalent to their increase over the whole of the preceding month.

The sharp increase in food prices affected most of all the inhabitants of Russia's major cities. For example, whereas in small cities (with populations up to 250,000) and medium-sized cities (with populations of 250,000 to 500,000) foods became dearer by 4.2 to 4.5 percent over the week and by 8 to 8.8 percent since the start of the month; in the major cities (population 500,000 upwards) the equivalent figures were 7.1 and 11.8 percent.

The average cost of the basket of 19 most important foods as of 18 October was 69,600 rubles [R] calculated for a month; it had increased 5.2 percent over the week, 10 percent since the start of the month, and by a factor of 2.3 since the start of the year. The cost of the basket in organized trade prices was R67,900 and in nonorganized trade prices R87,100. The ratio between the cost of the basket in unorganized and organized trade prices was 1.3.

Among consumer goods the greatest increase in prices over last week was observable in nonfood goods, where the rise was 5.6 percent. No such sharp increase in nonfood prices had been recorded this year. Since the start of the month nonfood goods have increased in price by 10.4 percent. The greatest price increases were on goods where imports make up the bulk of sales: filter cigarettes became 17 percent more expensive, wallpaper 13 percent, televisions 7.5 percent, and fall- and winter-season clothing and footwear 6 to 8 percent. Moreover, medicines went up substantially, registering a 9-percent increase. The change in prices for summer clothing and footwear for children and adults and for gasoline—at 3 percent—was markedly less.

Nonfood goods in the Far East region went up most of all, recording a 10.2-percent increase. The multiple price increases for coal (5.7 times), medicines (1.6 times), and cigarettes (1.3 times) exerted a substantial influence on such price changes in the region. The increase in prices in the North Caucasus region was the lowest, at 4 percent.

The leading positions in terms of the level of prices for nonfood goods are still occupied by the Far East and East Siberia: For a long period of time almost all the Far East cities under observation have been among the 10 with the highest level of prices for gasoline; sixty percent of cities have synthetic washing products on sale at the highest prices; and many cities record the highest prices for household electrical products, certain kinds of furniture, and tobacco products.

The list of nonfood goods where Moscow figures among the leading 10 in terms of price levels is expanding. A large proportion of the range of sewn garments for children and adults and certain kinds of furniture belong to that group.

On average the lowest prices for industrial goods were recorded in cities of the Volga-Vyatka region. Televisions, wallpaper, footwear, certain kinds of furniture, and medicines are on sale there relatively cheaply.

Military & Space Issues

Grachev Promises To Solve Army Finance Problems

LD2710092894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0202 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Grachev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladivostok, 27 Oct—Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev's visit to the Far East is continuing. As reported today to the ITAR-TASS correspondent at the Pacific Ocean press center, after arriving from Khabarovsk in Kamchatka, the minister examined the units and subunits of the Petropavlovsk- Kamchatskiy garrison.

Pavel Grachev then spoke to commanders and warrant officers at the house of officers. He said that the personnel are well prepared for the winter and promised that financial problems will be resolved in the near future, as state reforms progress. The defense minister called for strengthening the combat readiness of the ships and units and assured those gathered that the program for equipping the army and the fleet with new, more modern types of arms will not be wound down but, on the contrary, will continue to be developed.

Pavel Grachev gave credit to northerners for their courage as they serve in Kamchatka's difficult and severe conditions, and said that the Russian Government will pay greater attention to strengthening the country's northern outskirts.

Defense Spending To Exceed R45 Trillion

LD2710093594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0815 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The 1995 draft federal budget prepared by the Russian Government provides that 45,274,901.8 mln rubles be spent on national defence.

The document was circulated among participants in the extraordinary plenary session of the State Duma on the eve of the session on Thursday morning.

According to the document, 2,988,486.4 mln rubles are expected to be spent on social issues; 4,175,218.4 mln rubles - on governmental administration; 26,790,548.2 mln rubles - on industry, power engineering and construction; 15,543,439.9 mln rubles - on law-enforcement agencies and national security; 7,894,517.6 mln rubles - on education; 1,320,845.0 mln rubles - on culture and arts; 1,747,253.9 mln rubles - on the mass media.

Grachev Views Army Reform in Kamchatka Speech

MM2710094394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Pelts: "Kamchatka. Distant Land, Russian Land. Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Minister of Defense, Arrives in Kamchatka 26 October. Work in the Far East Military District and the Pacific Fleet Garrisons Continues"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the minister of defense stressed in his address to officers of the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy garrison, he did not come here for the purposes of an inspection, but in order to give all possible aid in the establishment of normal living conditions here, given the difficult nature of the situation connected with the blows struck by the natural disaster. Assessing the state of the Russian Armed Forces, he noted that recently it has proved possible to do the most important thing—to create a reliable system of command and control of the troops and elaborate a new concept for their organizational development, and also conduct a number of other operational-strategic measures. The quest for new effective ways of reforming the Army will continue. In the future, the defense minister noted, it will be necessary to switch to a new branch structure of the Russian Armed Forces. At the same time, great significance will be given to the mobile forces, as well as to force groupings in the Far East region. On the basis of the example of Kaliningrad Oblast, where the effectiveness of the system of unified territorial command is proving its worth, the Far East force grouping of the Russian troops will given a completely different character. In principle, as the minister stressed, the Leningrad, Moscow, and North Caucasus Military Districts have already acquired the new look. This is particularly characteristic of the North Caucasus region, where a new and well-run armed force grouping has been created almost anew.

All the new elements and spheres of the reform of Russian troops will also have a direct bearing on the Far East region, which is acquiring greater significance for Russia with each passing year. First and foremost, given the special geopolitical position of Kamchatka, a new system of Russian Armed Forces command and control will be tested here. A decision has already been adopted and the location of a new space center like Baykonur has been determined. Apart from that, the minister of defense expressed the idea of creating a single security system in the Far East like the European Union. This will make it possible to settle security problems in the entire Asia-Pacific region more reliably.

Army General Pavel Grachev stressed that the Far East force grouping, including on Kamchatka, will be preserved with a view to the guaranteed protection of Russia's national interests.

The minister of defense set specific tasks as regards the organization of combat training in the new training year. The main thing, he stressed, is not only to start it in an organized way, but also to devote more attention to the social and everyday conditions of service. He paid special attention to the small and distant garrisons of the Far East region, and demanded that leaders of all ranks should display greater creativity and initiative in settling all problems.

By and large, assessing the state of the forces, the minister of defense especially noted the high moral and psychological qualities of the Far East servicemen. He spoke of this at a press conference which was held in Khabarovsk late at night. He noted that there are still some genuine patriots in Russia who, despite all the current difficulties, are worried about Russia and are performing their military duty with honor. "People still believe in its greatness, as I became convinced in the areas of the natural disaster. I thank them all and pay homage before them", the minister stressed.

Call for 'Effective Civilian Control' of Armed Forces

MM2610160194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 2

[Report by Pavel Anokhin: "Armed Forces Under Civilian Control"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the State Duma Defense Committee, stated in a conversation with ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI's correspondent:

"The numerous press reports about the bad state of affairs in the Armed Forces are being ignored, and not only are cases of mercenary abuses among Armed Forces leadership personnel not being curtailed, they are also being concealed from justice." He demanded that all Defense Ministry officials "who have tainted themselves with corruption and other abuses" be brought to account and punished.

Yushenkov reported that the political council of the "Russia's Democratic Choice" party has declared that

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"the current Defense Ministry leadership is not in a position to control the situation in the Armed Forces and ensure that military reform is implemented." A statement adopted by the political council contains an appeal to State Duma deputies to quickly adopt laws which ensure effective civilian control over the Armed Forces.

Navy Ships 'On Continuous Alert'

LD2610184994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1713 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Russian Navy ships are on continuous alert and are prepared to leave port immediately. Patrolling of the world ocean by strategic submarines is continuing. Over eighty times the ships undertook long travels and 12 ships took part in joint exercises with foreign navies, Admiral Felix Gromov, commander-in-chief of the Russian Navy, told the closed session of the State Duma Geopolitics Committee Tuesday.

He said exercises were carried out by groups of ships. Surface ships and submarines competed in 20 kinds of firing and tactical activities.

Training in the use of heavy aircraft carrying cruiser Admiral Flota Kuznetsov is underway, 10 air force officers landed on it.

Gromov described shortage of finances as the most acute problem the navy faced. The navy received as few as 10 different ships and boats in 1993. As little as 51 percent of the navy's financial needs have been met in the first nine months of 1993. The navy can send only 36 percent of the ships that need this for repairs.

He said that nuclear fuel had been taken away from as few as 42 out of 120 decommissioned submarines. The government program of this activity has received only 21 percent of the funds it needs.

The navy owes about 105 billion rubles to civilian organizations for the heating, energy and communal services.

Gromov said that Russia did not have a naval construction program covering a period of 10 to 15 years.

Fuel Shortage Forces Postponement of Satellite Launch

LD2610112394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1043 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Viktoriya Zuyeva]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 26 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Today's launch from Baykonur of a Proton booster rocket carrying the Elektro geostationary video-relay satellite will not go ahead after all. Authoritative sources told ITAR-TASS that the launch was postponed because there is no fuel at the cosmodrome for the booster rocket. The enterprise which is supposed to supply rocket fuel refused to despatch any until it receives advance payment. However, reports say that payment has already been made and the fuel will shortly be delivered to Baykonur.

Development of the satellite began 15 years ago. The USSR undertook to put it into orbit as far back as 1982, but the launch date was constantly put off because the satellite was not ready. Two of the principal designers—Andronik Iosifyan and Vladimir Adasko—died before the development work could be completed. The main problem was the design of software for onboard computers. Furthermore, development work was hampered by meager funding.

The Military Space Forces' press center refused to confirm the reasons for the postponement. It merely said that the launch was postponed to the end of October or the beginning of November.

Defense Order Decline Compounds Submarine Plant's Plight

MM2710131594 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Oct 94 p 8

[Report by Nikolay Yefimovich: "They Built Submarines, They Ended Up with Frying Pans"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Nizhniy Novgorod—A powerful and almost-finished titanium-alloy submarine built at the "Krasnoye Sormovo" Plant—Nizhniy Novgorod's military-industrial complex flagship—has been sent for scrap straight from the stocks. All it required was fitting out. At the very last minute the Navy refused pointblank to accept the order—it did not have the money to pay.

The renowned plant has already gotten used to its labor of Sisyphus. Over the past few years "Krasnoye Sormovo" has time and again sent its world-famous submarines to the scrapyard, to the open-hearth furnace for melting down, or has simply scuttled them in the harbor. Some could have put to sea the very next day, others were half-finished, but suddenly the Defense Ministry cut off funding. The former favorite of the military-industrial complex has been drastically affected by conversion. Military orders fell overnight—from 70 percent in 1991 to 5 percent this year.

It is probably remarkable that the country is so gallantly leaving its militarized past behind. Only for some reason this kind of conversion is increasingly reminiscent of destruction. Nikolay Zharkov, director of the "Krasnoye Sormovo" Plant, put it more strongly—it is robbery! [passage omitted]

When the German ambassador to Russia visited the plant he was horrified. Their conversion rate is 5-7 percent a year. Any faster would mean ruin and would be virtually a national tragedy. Is it not madness to move so quickly from submarines to separators and frying pans? Would it not be more sensible to sell submarines on the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

world market (raising millions of dollars) to obtain the funds for the costly pleasure of conversion? According to experts from the president's entourage, conversion is costing $8 billion a year. And that is in 1992 prices.

"Krasnoye Sormovo" has tried selling its submarines. With the help of "Rosvooruzheniye" a few submarines were sold to China. And, Director Nikolay Zharkov believes, on quite crushing terms. The Chinese had shown interest in the Sormovo submarines back at last year's "Conversion" exhibition. They were not even scared off by the relatively high price. They knew that such submarines cost around $200 million on the world market. Admittedly, there are exceptions. For instance, the Germans sold even more expensive submarines to Indonesia. Although German submarines are inferior to Russian ones. How did they pay for it? The Indonesians were given a 10-year loan equivalent to the cost of the submarine—on condition that it would only be bought from Germany.

They are concerned about employment over there. The Chinese Government is too—unlike the Russian Government. According to an intergovernmental agreement signed by Vice Premier Shokhin, the Chinese are entitled to pay for 65 percent of the cost of the armaments in the form of goods. Only the remaining part of the deal needs to be paid for in foreign currency. The Krasnoye Sormovo director stated that he would only sign such a contract at gunpoint. At the third attempt they agreed to a 50-50 deal. As a result, the total value of the contract was far less than expected. Although the Chinese are selling Pakistan their own inferior submarines at a far higher price.

The Chinese goods were no cause for rejoicing either. They were old junk. The Nizhniy Novgorod machinery plant, which received a whole wagonload of cheap consumer goods from the PRC, still does not know what to do with them. The "Krasnoye Sormovo" Plant saw little of the actual dollars after paying duty, paying the Navy for taking the submarines to China, paying the Central Design Bureau for planning.... The attitude at "Rosvooruzheniye" was that Zharkov ought to be grateful for getting so much for his products. [passage omitted]

What other political initiatives should be expected from the latest foreign trips by the president and other top leaders? After all, they can sometimes chop down a program. In the wake of Yeltsin's trip to the United States it transpired that, meeting the Americans halfway, Russia would no longer be concluding contracts to sell arms to Iran. Canadian radio reported that Iran had stated that if Russia intends to deprive itself of this market, then that is Russia's problem—Iran has no particular need for Russian weapons.

For some reason we always give more thought to others than to ourselves and our own national interests. The Americans themselves have legislation that allows them to block any foreign investment in the defense industry if its threatens national security.

Whereas we can only dream of private capital or of anyone else taking an active interest in military orders. This is still a very unprofitable business area. Moreover, the defense sector is in the hands of arrogant red directors who cannot bear what are, in their opinion, alien ideas—"Krasnoye Sormovo" gave a hostile reception to the proposal to set up a local free economic zone on its territory.

They will do better making handcuffs for the militia. The plant has already carried out two orders to chromium-plate handcuffs.

Federal Assembly

Chernomyrdin Speaks at Duma; Not To Resign

LD2710105994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0910 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 27 Oct—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin does not intend to resign. He said this while answering questions from State Duma deputies. The Prime Minister believes the question of his resignation should be decided by the Russian Federation president and the State Duma.

Viktor Chernomyrdin acknowledged that his government was to blame for the problem of nonpayments. In addition, in reply to the question by a member of the Communist Party faction he said he is ready to meet representatives of the faction to discuss ways out of the crisis and the communists' proposals on the subject.

Speaking about the Kurils, the premier stressed "we are not even conducting any talks at present" about handing over the islands to Japan. "The Kurils have always been, are and will remain Russian", he said.

Says New Appointments Possible

LD2710105694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1043 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—"We are building no socialism and we are not going to communism", Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told the State Duma on Thursday responding to a question which social system is being created in Russia.

However, he said nothing about capitalism.

The premier said that his government works as a unified team and he knows no vice-premier or minister "who would conduct his own policy without the consent" of the head of government. At the same time Chernomyrdin made it understood that the so-called "power" ministers - of defence and interior - have a special status.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"The power ministers have a special status and lawmakers know that peculiarity", Chernomyrdin said.

He added that new appointments in the government are possible. "The personnel issue is permanently open", the premier said.

Chernomyrdin also warned the lawmakers that the situation in the country would not improve if they vote non-confidence in the government.

Says Russia Pulling Out of Crisis

LD2710090094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0839 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS— Despite numerous economic problems facing Russia, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin believes that the country is already getting out of the crisis.

"The country is beginning to climb out from the bottomline of the crisis", the premier told lawmakers on Thursday who are to vote confidence in the government today.

Chernomyrdin believes that the issue of confidence has emerged because the country has arrived to a point when it is necessary to decide on its future development.

"The confidence vote is both a reaction to the crisis in economic life and a proof that society has come to a point in reforms when it is necessary to adopt decisions on which their future will depend", the prime minister said.

Industrial slump in Russia in ten months of 1994 comprised 21 per cent compared to a corresponding period of last year, according to Chernomyrdin who stressed that the country "continues to consume, rather than produce its wealth".

The major problems are mutual indebtedness of enterprises which "strangles economy" and declining living standards, according to him.

The premier admitted that the government bears responsibility for the ailing economy, but stressed that it is working hard to solve the indebtedness and other economic problems.

The prime minister also admitted that the 1994 budget had numerous drawbacks and "was unrealistic in assessing revenues". The negative experience was taken into consideration while drafting the 1995 budget.

At the same time, Chernomyrdin stressed that the parliament also bears responsibility for the drawbacks of the 1994 budget. He recalled that only few lawmakers had warned that the proceeds are overestimated in the document, while most deputies were only requesting budget appropriations.

Comments on Ruble Status

LD2710114994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1130 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS— "The government will not permit another collapse of the rouble exchange rate. We shall keep it on an acceptable level, so that inflation expectations will not be boosted, and, at the same time, hard- currency reserves of the Russian central banks will not be squandered," Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said today at a session of the State Duma. According to the prime minister, "the situation is now under control and is being stabilised."

Dramatic ups and downs of the rouble exchange rate "do not reflect the real economic situation in Russia," he stressed. The internal convertibility of the national currency "is far from being based on a real economic potential of Russia." In this situation, he continued, "it is not serious to say that the government is interested in stock-exchange speculations, because this runs counter to all that we were doing between January and September."

Dwelling upon the problem of stabilisation of the rouble exchange rate, the prime minister said that "the peak of credits is over". Emission is under "tough control." "The limits, set for the fourth quarter, will be complied with," the prime minister assured the legislators. "Some positive changes have taken place in the solution of the problem of non-payments, which should make a positive impact both on the financial situation of enterprises and on the budget revenues."

The government will ensure the complete financing of the protected items in the budget. According to Chernomyrdin, "this means, in the first place, that the government will pay its wage debts in the budget-financed branches of the economy and will finance in full volume the Children of Russian programme and the foundation of support for subjects of the Federation." Aside from it, he continued, "the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank drew up an acceptable plan of restructuring the debts of the agricultural sector on the credits, granted before, and the payment of interests on them."

Most Duma Factions 'Not Impressed'

LD2710114794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1127 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS— Most State Duma factions were not impressed by future government plans reported by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Thursday, and only the democratic "Russia's Choice" believes the report signalled an economic breakthrough.

Communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov qualified the report as "a timid attempt" to understand what is

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

happening in the country and said the promised measures are insufficient to change "the absolutely catastrophic" situation.

Opposition lawmaker Vladimir Isakov said the report "is traditional. It says something about drawbakes and contains numerous promises". "Thus, nothing changes", he told TASS.

Leader of the "New Regional Policy" faction Vladimir Medvedev was brief in assessing the report. "Wishful thinking", he told TASS.

Petr Romanov, who represents the interests of directors of enterprises and is going to run for presidency from the opposition, said the government is unable to end the crisis.

Yekaterina Lakhova, the head of the "Women of Russia" faction, seems to be also disillusioned by Chernomyrdin's speech. The report "contains practically nothing" about the draft 1995 budget and plans for the upcoming three years.

The only thing which Lakhova appreciated is that Chernomyrdin had "critically assessed the work of his government".

It was only Anatoliy Chubays, a government member and a representative of the democratic "Russia's Choice" faction, who assessed the report as a breakthrough.

The latest government decisions "change the whole course of the economic policy of Russia and can be compared in its scope and importance only to the decisions of 1992", he told TASS referring to the liberalisation of prices which signalled the beginning of Russian reforms under the command of former Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar.

To implement the breakthrough, according to Chubays, no opposition members should be given government portfolios. "This would be dangerous", Chubays said.

Deputies Comment on Report

LD2710134894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1337 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent Robert Serebrennikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Leader of the Choice of Russia faction Yegor Gaydar positively estimated the report of Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin delivered at the State Duma today.

"The report is just as it should be. It would have been priceless if delivered two years ago. But I believe it is better late than never. I do not think the no-confidence vote will be passed at least today," Gaydar told correspondents during the first break in Duma session today.

In his turn, deputy chairman of the Duma committee for budget and finances Aleksandr Pochinok told correspondents it was the most courageous and thundering report of a man who understood what he should do and recognized his mistakes. He said it would be a great success if even part of the report is fulfilled.

In the opinion of leader of the Yabloko faction Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, the report of Viktor Chernomyrdin sets another unreal task similar to the one of building communism in 1980.

"I mean the inflation decrease to 0.5 monthly per cent in 1995. The inflation roots not only in the Central Bank issuance of credits to the government but also in the structure of our production, the absence of private property at large enterprises, the absence of competition and a high degree of monopolism. The government actions are a chain of mistakes and failures," said Yavlinskiy.

Chairman of the Duma committee for economic policy Sergey Glazyev said one cannot describe as tough the budget that plans to increase the domestic debt by 40,000 billion rubles and the foreign debt by 12,000 billions. One cannot speak of structural reorganization of industry, if the draft budget provides for halved spending on development and further recession in machine-building. "The government's words and deeds differ," said Glazyev.

Zyuganov Demands Change

LD2710141794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1351 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Gennadiy Zyuganov said that it was "extraordinary" that President Boris Yeltsin stayed away from a meeting of the State Duma today. The leader of communists in the lower house of parliament demanded the change of course and named the figures who can from a new cabinet. The list of 15 is topped by Petr Romanov, member of the Federation Council, and includes Aman Tuleyev, Sergey Glazyev, Aleksandr Nazarchuk, Viktor Ilyukhin, Ramazan Abdulatipov, Sergey Baburin.

Zyuganov described the system existing in Russia at present as "the rule of embezzlers" and said that the country can be likened to a time bomb. He said that Russia is encircled with rimlands of instability and has no allies. "There will be a collapse by spring", Zyuganov said.

He proposed to deputies to invite the president to the State Duma and ask him if he can "suggest anything new". Urging deputies to pass a vote of non-confidence in the present government, Zyuganov said that a new cabinet should include people "with national orientation and national thinking".

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Communists To Support No-Confidence Vote

LD2610143494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1410 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—At Thursday's special meeting of the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament, the Communist Party faction will vote for no-confidence in the government in keeping with a decision of the recent plenary meeting of the party's central executive committee, faction leader Gennadiy Zyuganov told a press conference in the Duma on Wednesday.

The communists will vote, proceeding from the assumption that "at least such odious figures as Anatoliy Chubays, Aleksandr Shokhin, Andrey Kozyrev, Viktor Yerin, and Pavel Grachev may not remain in the government," Zyuganov emphasised.

"There can be no question of the communists' participation in the government as long as the current anti-popular policy of the president and government of Russia is pursued," he pointed out.

The leader of the communists expressed doubt that a verdict of no-confidence in the government will be brought in on Thursday. But at the same time he does not believe that the cabinet will get a vote of confidence either. He believes that the parliamentarians, most probably, will give their support to a third, compromise, version of a Duma decision on the issue which the leaders of factions will discuss on Thursday morning prior to the chamber's plenary meeting.

Zyuganov declined to say anything about the contents of the document.

Russia's Choice To Vote for Confidence

LD2610201494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1908 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The parliamentary faction Russia's Choice will vote for confidence in the Russian government, the leader of the party Russia's Democratic Choice, Yegor Gaydar, told a news conference in St. Petersburg Wednesday. He said he was confident that the State Duma will not pass a vote of no confidence at its session on October 27.

Commenting on the decision to create a CIS Interstate Economic Committee made by the CIS Moscow summit last week, Gaydar pointed to its positive role in republics' further economic integration. "But we are against solving other states' problems at the expense of the Russian economy and the Russian taxpayer," he stressed.

Shakhray, Rybkin Express Confidence in Government

LD2610221194 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The State Duma will take a vote of confidence in the government tomorrow. The communists and the unregistered faction The Russian Way intend to cast their vote of no confidence. Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the communists, said he is sure of his faction's unity. Eight out of 14 members of the Democratic Party of Russia faction, which proposed the motion, will also vote for no confidence in the government.

The Party of Russian Unity and Accord has finally decided on its position. Party leader Sergey Shakhray told an Ekho Moskvy correspondent that members of his faction will vote against the no confidence motion.

[Begin Shakhray recording] We believe that on such issues one should take a firm stand instead of trying to sit between two chairs. [end recording]

Some factions and groups have not yet made a final decision. The Liberal Democratic Party will receive instructions from its leader just before the vote is cast. The New Regional Policy and Women of Russia factions will decide only after the prime minister's report. The Agrarian Party supports demands for some ministers' resignation in principle, but has not decided on the issue of resignation of the cabinet as a whole. It looks as if Russia's Choice and Union of 12 December will not vote at all. The Yabloko faction intends to leave the hall while the vote is being taken.

Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin believes that no tragedy will happen tomorrow and the motion of no confidence in the government will not receive a majority of votes.

[Begin Rybkin recording] Our task is not to topple the government but to strenghten it with professional people of the highest caliber. It is not true that there are no such people. They are there. Perhaps some of them got tired, some exhausted their potential, maybe some do not work to their full capacity. This is what we are proceeding from. [end recording]

Lower Chamber Adopts Small Business Bill

LD2610132894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1146 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On Wednesday the State Duma adopted in its first reading the decree "On State Support to Small Business in the Russian Federation" submitted by the government.

In his speech Russia's first deputy Economics Minister Andrey Shapovalyants pointed out that only one of the principles of registration provided by the draft "substantially simplifies the procedure of the formation of a new middle class."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The state support to small business will include a simplified order of registration of small businesses, licensing of their activity, and presenting their accounts. In addition, the state is to support their foreign economic activity, to create beneficial conditions for the access to financial, material-technical, and information resources.

State support will also comprise formation and implementation of federal, branch, and regional programs of activity of small business enterprises aimed at the saturation of the market with environmentally friendly goods.

The amendments of the property, privatization, and economic activity committee pledge the government to annually submit the program for state support to small business to the Federal Assembly for confirmation and a report on the condition and development of this sphere of economy.

Duma Approves Suffrage Rights Bill

LD2610145294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1411 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—The bill "On the Principal Guarantees of Suffrage Rights to Citizens of the Russian Federation" did not trigger any particular debates in the Russian State Duma, which approved its entire text today. The debate focused mainly on the 12th Article of the document, determining the legal status of the Central Election Commission.

Various proposals were submitted on this score, but the Duma preferred the following version. The Central Election Commission shall include 15 members and its term of office shall not exceed five years. There is another quite important requirement—all the Commission members must have a higher law education or a scientific degree in jurisprudence.

It is noteworthy that a third of the Commission, that is five of its members, shall be appointed by the State Duma from among candidates nominated by parliamentary factions and deputy groups. The same number of members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Council of the Federation (the upper house of the Russian parliament) from among candidates nominated by representative and executive bodies of subjects of the Federation. The Duma did not overlook the president, too. Five members of the Commission shall be appointed by the head of the Russian state.

The law stipulates that the members of the Central Election Commission shall elect their chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. Members of the Central Election Commission, may be dismissed before the expiration of their term of office on decision of the body that had appointed them.

The approved law will be urgently submitted for endorsement to the Council of the Federation (upper chamber of the Russian parliament).

Duma Adopts Law on Agricultural Procurement

LD2610165594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Duma has adopted, in the third reading, the law on procurement and delivery of agricultural produce and food for state needs. Under the law the government has to identify state purchasers responsible for establishing federal stocks of agricultural produce. These, in turn, have to guarantee that producers receive timely payment for what they produce. Each year the government has to set a level of procurement prices which provides sufficient incentive for increased production. The law provides for fines and forfeits if its requirements are not followed.

State Duma Adopts Law on Radio, Television

LD2610215694 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The State Duma adopted a draft law on radio and television at the first reading today. Under the law, the state will have the exclusive right to supervise television broadcasting, and the Russian suppliers of radio and TV material will be protected. The law also provides antimonopoly guarantees and even envions some measures to maintain the purity of the Russian language.

Duma Rejects Draft Appeal Against Attacks on Military

LD2610163494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1509 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On Wednesday the Duma rejected a draft appeal to the representatives of political movements and news media workers to stop unfounded accusations against senior armed forces officials.

The document was submitted by a group of deputies from the Duma's defence committee, who are concerned about the "widespread campaign of accusations against the highest-ranking Defence Ministry officials" launched recently after the brutal murder of the MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS correspondent Dmitriy Kholodov.

The authors of the document point out that the facts of corruption in the Western Group of Troops, and the charges that Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and the former commander of the Group, Matvey Burlakov, were involved in them, need to be investigated by the prosecuting authorities; and that to incite "anti-army

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

sentiments in society by circulating unconfirmed information" is extremely unethical and "detrimental to national security."

Duma Committee Chairman on Farming Issues

MM2610105794 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Oct 94 pp 1, 3

["Topical Interview" with State Duma Agrarian Committee Chairman A. Nazarchuk by Aleksandr Platoshkin; date and place not given: "The Peasant Will Straighten His Back"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the words of deputies themselves, the State Duma has begun work "under the sign of the priority of socioeconomic problems." Of the more than 200 draft laws to be examined by its second session, around one-third are devoted to the economy and the development of the agro-industrial complex. This is a requirement of the times. As is also confirmed by the recent events on the financial market, which came as a cold shower to voters and deputies alike. The Duma will have to continue to probe acute social conflicts and react to the facts of present-day life. Nevertheless its main task is to create a legislative base. The springboard from which our economy can successfully take off.

What is currently being done for this beneath the roof of the refurbished monumental building on Okhotnyy Ryad? How are parliamentarians defending the interests of the agro-industrial complex? This is the subject of our conversation with State Duma Agrarian Committee Chairman A. Nazarchuk.

[Platoshkin] Aleksandr Grigoryevich, you are known as an authoritative expert and major organizer of agricultural production. In the State Duma too the committee which you head up has a high profile. Documents of truly historic significance are born within the depths of this committee. For example the Land Code, about which there is so much talk in society and with which so many hopes and—I make no secret of it—so many concerns are linked. It would be nice to know your assessment of the state of the agro-industrial complex and how you legislators intend to get the gravely sick rural economy up on its feet?

[Nazarchuk] Very difficult questions.... The mass media often accuse me of pessimism. For some reason NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA even wrote: Members of the government are promising to swamp the country with food, but Nazarchuk is predicting disaster for the countryside....

OK, I trust only concrete facts. I maintain my links with production. On a voluntary basis, at the request of my fellow countrymen, I remain chairman of the Altay Kray Agro-Industrial Union.

[Platoshkin] Society is waiting for the stabilization and improvement of food matters.

[Nazarchuk] Me too. But harvesting is nearing completion. We are barely going to gather more than 80 million tonnes of grain. We will get around 18 million tonnes of sugar beet—approximately half what we used to have. In stockraising too the decline continues. In terms of milk and meat it will be down 18-20 percent on last year's level. It has become unprofitable to be involved in other agricultural sectors too.

It is now difficult to put things right at a stroke, so to speak. Food production processes are long and cyclical. Many elements of the process have been lost or weakened, including selection and seed breeding. This could destroy the entire chain. Funds are needed to update technologies, improve breeding, and buy machines, equipment, and chemicals. And everything gets more expensive every day.

In this connection I remember 1992. A big official from Moscow came to visit us in Altay. He urged: "Don't buy tractors, don't buy combines. We'll make the suppliers cut their prices."

Two years have passed. Prices have gone higher and higher. Moreover, as you know, prices for industrial products and services are growing two and three times faster than prices for agricultural products. The countryside is incapable of making ends meet, is using old equipment "until it falls apart," and has sharply reduced purchases of mineral fertilizer. There is nothing to move organic fertilizer out into the fields with, fall plowing has been missed, and exchanging of seed is going badly.

[Platoshkin] And what are agrarian deputies doing in this connection?

[Nazarchuk] Under the Constitution and the Duma Standing Orders the committee has no right to interfere in the operational work of the executive branch. In other areas our cooperation is not bad. Right now, for example, we are ascertaining with the government and the Central Bank how to ease the credit debt burden on peasants. They were given these credits at the inconceivable fantastic rate of 213 percent per annum. In such conditions the countryside is never going to find a way of of debt or start working for the long-term future.

Well, the main criterion for assessing the committee's activity is the laws which it formulates and submits for examination by the Duma. I cannot say that we have been oversuccessful here. Nevertheless the law on land rent was adopted in the main. We managed to get two important draft laws—on agricultural cooperatives and purchases of agricultural produce—through their first reading. We are preparing the latter for a repeat examination.

[Platoshkin] It would be good to get it done quickly. This document is awaited with impatience in the countryside. Everyone is waiting for it, irrespective of form of ownership.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Nazarchuk] We know why. Let me give an example. Currently more than 80 million tonnes of grain have been threshed in the country. Approximately one-tenth of this quantity has been put into federal and regional stocks. Ten percent of the marketable grain in Russia! When have you ever known such a thing? The financial conditions in which the countryside has been placed prevent it coping with selling its output. Once again part of the harvest could rot.

[Platoshkin] You favor compulsory deliveries?

[Nazarchuk] The committee has no intention of taking the countryside out of the market. Let them display enterprise and look for buyers. But in six or seven areas—grain, sugar beet, flax, oil-seed crops, meat, milk, and wool—a prior order is necessary. If there is no sale, the state must take produce from the cooperative or the farmer for a guaranteed calculated price. Having concluded a contract a farm would then receive an advance toward the next harvest to be used for its daily needs.

This is how it is throughout the world: Either the peasant is given credit at a normal rate of interest so he can keep what he has grown and wait for favorable economic conditions. Or produce is taken off him at a premium price.

[Platoshkin] Please God that this should happen in our country, so to speak. Society is also waiting for parliament to decide the question of forms of land ownership.

[Nazarchuk] There have been parliamentary hearings on the Land Code to which representatives of regional legislative organs' committees and commissions were invited. But deputies failed to support either the draft law submitted by the government or the alternative submitted by the "Russia's Choice" faction.

We know that there is very great interest in this document. There are different expectations and concerns in our society here. For some people the land is a source of food and a place to live. For others it is an object of speculation, a profitable place to invest capital. Including dishonestly earned capital. We were working in earnest on the draft for the whole of the vacation period. We will soon be discussing the clarified draft, which I hope will be the final one. We are offering two wordings for a number of provisions on which there is as yet no unanimity. The committee will decide which one to adopt and submit to a plenary session of the Duma.

[Platoshkin] What in this document is the source of disagreement?

[Nazarchuk] First, the size of land plots. Our opponents believe that there should be no restrictions. But all the world's countries have long since done away with latifundism. Why turn the clock back and increase the hired-hand system, unemployment, and other social ills in the countryside? The transfer of so-called land shares is a very serious and also controversial issue. We are being told that land holdings can be sold without being designated on the ground. What you get is something like a voucher.

If we issue ownership entitlement certificates people will start trading in who knows what. Buyer and seller alike will have no idea where the plot is or what it consists of. We are categorically opposed to this kind of free-for-all. The transfer of land shares which have not been designated on the ground can only be allowed within the context of a reformed kolkhoz or sovkhoz. If he leaves the labor collective the owner can obtain the money value of the share. And land and property can be taken from him only by a decision of a general meeting. Whereas taking your plot out of a farm or cooperative at any time and selling land shares to outsiders paralyzes the enterprise. How can you then plan production levels and tackle irrigation and the boosting of fertility in general?

We cannot agree with the unrestricted buying and selling of land, with the exception of house, garden, or dacha plots. Another controversial issue is the place of foreign citizens in land arrangements. Some deputies favor giving them equal rights with all Russians. The committee will insist that land designated for agricultural use, plus plots for the construction of projects involving foreign capital, can only be leased to foreigners and noncitizens.

Our portfolio also includes a law on peasant (private) farms, which also must not be delayed. But it still needs to be examined after the Land Code is discussed because there are many interconnected problems here.

[Platoshkin] Such complex work must certainly require cohesion and solidarity among committee members.

[Nazarchuk] Another tricky question. The committee includes people with different political leanings. For example, three of my deputies represent three factions: the Agrarians, "Russia's Choice," and "New Regional Policy." This naturally causes certain difficulties. Including organizational difficulties. For example, an urgent decision needs to be adopted and the deputy chairmen and committee members have a faction meeting. There are things for us to think about here so our work can be made more coordinated and productive.

Although we all represent farming interests, as they say, we have different ideas on ways to develop the agro-industrial complex. Everyone tries to push his party's line on the committee. Even the deputies from our faction, for example, are not unanimous on the Land Code I mentioned earlier. Some totally reject a land market; others consider that it must be totally unrestricted.

So ours is a difficult life full of debate, struggle, and compromise. We have to console ourselves with the fact that this is the normal course of parliamentary life. We have to learn to defend our positions, respect other

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

people's opinions, and accept defeats. As happened to me, for example, during the discussion of the draft privatization law. On the instructions of my faction I participated in the work of the Conciliation Commission. Various sections which did not suit the Agrarians were successfully amplified and clarified. It was agreed that the draft would pass its first reading. But during the vote members of our faction voted against. I was left in a minority.

Following this the president signed an edict on the matter. And the privatization process went ahead without Duma participation. But if we had adopted that draft law we could have taken control of its implementation.

[Platoshkin] How close is the committee's cooperation with ministries and departments?

[Nazarchuk] There are many highly skilled experts working there. We often approach them for consultation and assistance. We are also obliged to enter into contact with the executive by appeals and requests from voters. We most often meet with the leaders of the Ministries of the Economy and Finance. I won't say that we are satisfied with their attitude toward the countryside. Let me cite the following figures. Whereas the national economy as a whole received 41 percent of planned finance in the first nine months of the year, the figure for the agro-industrial complex was only 28 percent.

In our view, the peasantry's interests are also poorly defended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. I personally have no complaints about Minister V.N. Khlystun. He is a profoundly decent and competent person. But I have told him several times: "Viktor Nikolayevich, why do you pretend to be the finance minister, saying the country has no money? You have a package of documents regulating the relationship between the Finance Ministry and the Agro-Industrial Complex. Demand their fulfillment."

We cannot accept that ministries have left the countryside to cope with its problems alone and shrugged off concern for purchases. Moscow meets 60 percent of its meat requirements and 58 percent of its milk and dairy product requirements from imports. How can I have confidence in a government which leaves home-produced products unused and feeds the capital with foreign products? At the end of the day give subsidies to the city or to the peasants. But you must not undermine the foundations of our own economy. The governments of those countries which supply us with ham finance their farmers. The price of a tonne of grain on the world market has now risen to $150—more than half a million rubles. But we still haggle about buying grain from our peasants at 60,000 or 100,000 rubles a tonne.

[Platoshkin] Aleksandr Grigoryevich, the first session of the State Duma is behind you. The second session has begun, and pretty turbulently. As you said, definite experience has been accumulated. But in general, hand on heart, are you satisfied with your activity?

[Nazarchuk] When I go out and talk to voters about what we are doing and what we have achieved I am often asked: "So why can't we feel the results of what you are doing there?" I used to head up the Altay Kray agro-industrial complex. This is a huge economic region—essentially an entire state. Things were also difficult there. But I find it no easier in the committee. There is no satisfaction, because you can't see the real results. I regard the critical situation in agriculture as a personal tragedy. After all, I have devoted practically my whole life to this sector. I don't want to idealize the past. It has always been difficult for people in farming, they have always been squeezed and fleeced. But today's situation...

[Platoshkin] Let's hope that it will get better. And that parliament and its lawmaking activity will help....

[Nazarchuk] The countryside will get up off its knees and straighten its back. We live and work with this belief.

Regional Affairs

Defense Minister Grachev Arrives in Kamchatka

LD2610213294 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1930 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Army General Pavel Grachev, the Russian defense minister, who is on an inspection tour of Russia's Far East, has arrived in Kamchatka. During the trip the defense minister reported, in particular, a decision to carry out some organizational and personnel changes in the troops' deployment. According to the minister, the purpose of these changes should lie not in weakening but, on the contrary, in achieving a greater efficiency of the grouping. The defense minister also expressed the idea of a meeting of the defense ministers of the Asian-Pacific region countries to discuss the possibility of creating a regional security system.

'To Rest' Rather Than Visit Bases

LD2710104494 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] On the second day of his stay in Kamchatka, Army General Pavel Grachev, the Russian defense minister, cancelled his planned visit to units and formations stationed on the peninsula. ITAR-TASS reports that Pavel Grachev decided to rest a little. In his place, other high-ranking Defense Ministry officials departed to study the situation and tackle the problems of Kamchatka's servicemen. Today the defense minister left Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy for Ulan-Ude.

Maritime Kray Faces Acute Fuel Shortages

LD2610140994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0804 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the ITAR-TASS news digest]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladivostok [no date as received]—Maritime Kray is suffering from a severe fuel crisis. According to experts from the Dalenergo [Far Eastern Electricity] joint-stock company, consumers have no money to pay for electricity, while Dalenergo in turn has no money to pay for fuel. Mutual debts have reached hundreds of billions of rubles. Oil and gas reserves will last only until early December, even if used very economically. Because of chronic nonpayments, suppliers will stop deliveries of coal and fuel oil to Maritime Kray in two weeks. Moreover, the extraction of fuel in the region's own mines has dropped sharply. Observers forecast that unless urgent measures are taken to resolve the fuel and energy crisis, most enterprises in the kray will grind to a halt by the new year, and lights in houses in Maritime Kray will become dim.

Yeltsin Meets North Ossetian President

LD2610232194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1616 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladikavkaz, 26 Oct—Boris Yeltsin again supported the idea of North Ossetian President Akhsarbek Galazov meeting with the heads of state and leaders of republics, krays, and oblasts of the Caucasus in Vladikavkaz. The Russian president reaffirmed this today during a working meeting in the Kremlin with Akhsarbek Galazov. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told of the meeting at the press service of the president and government of North Ossetia.

An in-depth conversation raised problems of the situation in the Caucasus. Aspects of the implementation are included in the Russian president's decree "On State Support for the Socio-Economic Development of the Republic of North Ossetia Until the Year 2000", and organizational questions connected with the signing in November of a treaty and agreement between the Russian Federation and the republic of North Ossetia "On a Demarcation of the Subjects of Authority and the Mutual Delegation of Powers Between the Bodies of State Power of the Russian Federation and the State Power Bodies of the Republic of North Ossetia."

Boris Yeltsin once again supported the initiative of North Ossetian President Akhsarbek Galazov of a meeting in Vladikavkaz of representatives of the federal power bodies of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, and the republics, krays, and oblasts of the Caucasus, at which it would be possible to discuss socio-political and socio-economic questions and inter-ethnic problems in the Caucasus region. As is known, earlier it had been planned to hold this meeting within the framework of the jubilee celebrations to mark the 220th anniversary of Ossetia's joining Russia and the 210th anniversay of the founding of the city of Vladikavkaz.

Hijacker Detonates Explosion During Raid

LD2710052994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0515 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] [No dateline as received] During the operation to seize the terrorist at Makhachkala airport by the special sub-unit of the Russian Federal Counter-Intelligence Service this morning, the criminal exploded the device that he had on him. This was reported to the ITAR-TASS correspondent at the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

International Affairs

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Middle East Peace

LD2710062194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0615 GMT 27 Oct 94

[By UKRINFORM for TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev 27 Oct (TASS) Ukraine welcomed the signing of a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan and qualified it as "an important landmark on the way to a general settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict".

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry said in a statement late on Wednesday [26 October] that it is ready to promote the peace process in the Middle East and develop multifaceted and equal relations with all states of the region.

Kuchma Notes Intent To Give Up Nuclear Weapons

LD2610213894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2109 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Setunsky]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ottawa October 26 TASS—Ukraine has led itself into an isolation. To break off economic contacts with Russia would be as anomalous as if Canada would decide to have nothing in common with the United States, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine told the newspaper TORONTO STAR.

The Ukrainian president, who is currently in Canada on a state visit, met with representatives of the Canadian business community, members of the Ukrainian diaspora and news media in Toronto on Tuesday [25 October].

Kuchma again emphasised that Ukraine intends to give up possession of nuclear weapons and become the first country to do so of its own accord. For this to come true, Ukraine is in need of financial assistance and guarantees of its security, he added.

Mutual interest in all-round expansion of Canadian-Ukrainian trade and economic contacts was expressed during Kuchma's meetings with Canadian businessmen in Edmonton, Alberta Province. On Wednesday he declared open a seminar there on matters aimed at developing business partnership between Alberta and Ukraine. Representatives from Canadian companies emphasised their readiness to render assistance to a transition of the Ukrainian economy to a free market, including that through direct investments.

After a brief visit to Saskatoon, Saskatchewab Province, the Ukrainian president is due to arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba Province, later on Wednesday.

An international conference on partnership in promoting economic reforms in Ukraine is to open in Winnipeg on Thursday.

The conference, held on Canada's initiative in keeping with the decision taken at the Group-of-Seven summit in Naples in July, will deal with assistance to Ukraine in transition to a market economy.

The conference is to be attended by Leonid Kuchma, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Canadian Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet, government representatives from other G-7 countries, and International Monetary Fund leaders.

Kuchma Expects Financial Aid

LD2610194794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1809 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov and Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Leonid Kuchma is confident that the international conference on Partnership for Economic Reforms in Ukraine will pass a resolution on more financial aid to Kiev.

At a news conference in Toronto before flying to Winnipeg, the venue of the forum, he criticized those who set conditions for such assistance.

"First they tell us to join the Nonproliferation Treaty then they tell us to shut down the Chernobyl nuclear power plant," Kuchma said. "What comes next?"

He invited Canadian businessmen "to come and work in Ukraine."

The one-day Winnipeg forum, opening on Thursday, is to be attended by representatives of the Group of Seven industrialized nations, as well as Russia and Turkmenistan as creditor states of Ukraine.

The board of directors of the International Monetary Fund was due to meet on Wednesday to consider giving Ukraine the first tranche of a $365-million system transformation facility. Ukrainian Economics Minister Roman Shpek says Kiev needs a total of $900 million as credits by the end of the year.

Shpek, a member of Kuchma's delegation in Canada, in an interview with Interfax, pointed out that Kiev recently took key decisions on the exchange rates of the karbovanets against hard currencies, price policy, and Ukraine's foreign economic relations and that it hoped to obtain more than $300 million from the West as aid.

"That aid may be provided both by giving us direct loans and 'freezing' our debts, Shpek said, adding that Ukraine was shortly due to start talks to restructure its debts to Russia and Turkmenistan.

"Energetic work" was also needed to explore opportunities to be offered by cooperation with Japan in view of kuchma's Visit to that country scheduled for January.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

G7, at its Naples summit last July, announced that it could give Ukraine a total of $4 billion as aid if the republic carried out effective economic reforms.

Shpek said Ukraine should launch serious preparations for receiving a standby loan of about $1 billion to be used to restructure its economy.

National Affairs

Defense Ministry To Reduce Armed Forces

LD2610180494 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The press service of Ukraine's Defense Ministry circulated a report on 26 October on the reduction of Ukraine's armed forces. The Supreme Council of Ukraine, it says, has approved the overall numerical strength of the armed forces at 450,000. In fulfilling the decision taken by the top legislative body of the state, the Defense Ministry is taking relevant organizational measures by carrying out reduction and restructuring of various military units and subunits, and destroying or selling some pieces of hardware and property.

In compliance with the treaty on conventional armaments in Europe, Ukraine should dismantle a certain quantity of combat hardware and armaments. Of course, only obsolete material and technical means, which have no effect on the army's fighting efficiency, are subject to destruction.

The Defense Ministry is carrying out all the organizational measures to reduce the armed forces in line with a scientifically grounded program in the interests of maintaining a proper level of the country's defense capacity, the report by the press service of the Defense Ministry of Ukraine says.

Military Exercise Begins in Carpathians

LD2610152894 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A command and staff exercise without the participation of troops has begun in the Sub-Carpathian Military District. Anatoliy Lopata, chief of the Armed Forces of the Ukraine General Staff, is in command of the exercise. The district's headquarters planned to join force, formation, and unit headquarters to rehearse territorial defense operations by the Army.

Nuclear Plant Closed in 'Level Zero' Event

LD2610160194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1424 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 26 Oct (UKRINFORM-TASS)—The first power set of the Zaporozhye atomic power station was shut down on the evening of 25 October to eradicate a fault discovered in the steam generator's feedwater pipeline. The repair work is expected to last six days. This was reported today by Ukraine's Gosatom [State Committee for Nuclear Power Engineering].

While the power set was being shut down there were no breaches of safety limits or conditions. The radiation background on the nuclear power station's plant site and in the adjacent area is unchanged. The event has been assessed at "level zero" on the international scale for incidents at nuclear power stations.

Council Resolution on Address by President

WS2710104794 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 25 Oct 94 p 2

["Text" of resolution approved by the Ukrainian Supreme Council in Kiev on 19 October: "On Basic Principles of Economic and Social Policy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Having heard and discussed the address by Ukraine's president [to the Supreme Council on 11 October] "On basic principles of economic and social policy,'" the Ukrainian Supreme Council **resolves**:

1. To support in full the principal propositions of the Ukrainian president's address on the implementation of economic reform and social policy in Ukraine.

2. To recommend that Ukraine's president determine a list of appropriate draft bills and drafts of national programs of economic and social development of Ukraine, as well as terms for their submission to the Ukrainian Supreme Council for consideration.

To entrust Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers—on the basis of propositions in the Ukrainian president's address, and taking into account proposals and remarks by Ukraine's people's deputies, deputies' groups (factions), and Ukrainian Supreme Council standing commissions, which were expressed in the debate over the address—with the task of working out and submitting for Supreme Council consideration appropriate draft bills and drafts of national programs of economic and social development of Ukraine.

[Signed] Ukrainian Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz
[Dated] 19 October 1994, Kiev

Council Decree on Wages, Social Allowances

WS2710102194 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 25 Oct 94 p 2

["Text" of resolution approved by the Ukrainian Supreme Council in Kiev on 20 October: "On Increase of Wages, Pensions, and Social Allowances"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Having heard reports by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers and the Supreme Council's Standing Commissions for Budget Issues and Finance and Banking Activity Issues, as well as having examined the government's draft resolutions regarding

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

increases in wages, pensions, and social allowances, Ukraine's Supreme Council **resolves**:

1. To take the reports by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers and the Supreme Council's standing commissions into consideration.

2. To entrust Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers with the following tasks:

—to increase, effective 1 October 1994, wages, pensions, as well as social and compensatory allowances, in line with increases in the price index;

—to opportunely revise in November and December 1994 pensions, as well as social and compensatory allowances, paid to the citizens in conformity with changes in the consumer price index.

3. To declare invalid paragraph 2 in Provision 1 of the Ukrainian Supreme Council resolution of 25 November 1993 "On the increase of minimum wage rates and pensions depending on age." (VIDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOYI RADY UKRAYINY, 1993, No. 49, p. 467)

[Signed] Ukrainian Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz
20 October 1994, Kiev

Justice Minister Details Judiciary Reform

WS2610151594 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 20 Oct 94 p 3

[Article by Minister of Justice Vasyl Onopenko: "On the Reform of Judicial System"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the situation when Ukraine's independence is consolidating and Ukraine itself is emerging as a democratic and law-governed state, where the interests of man and the protection of his rights are the main responsibility of court and law-enforcement agencies, radical reform of the entire judicial system is necessary, so that the judicial branch can occupy a proper place beside the legislative and executive branches.

The steps that have been taken in this direction to date, however, are not sufficient, because courts are not yet genuinely independent and the status of lawyers is not properly protected...

A number of the concept's provisions are declarative in nature, and their implementation was never specified. Time has shown the fallacy of certain provisions and the concept's shortcomings. First and foremost, no financial backing of the reform was provided, which is inadmissible. Without raising all the problems that must be resolved to conduct genuine judiciary reform in Ukraine, let me emphasize that the concept's major miscalculation is the absence of reconstruction of the judiciary system. For some reason, it was assumed that the system of courts that has been present in Ukraine for more than 50 years is very strong and stable, and it safeguards human rights and our national interests...

Along with negative elements, however, the concept contains positive ones as well. For example, it rightly proposed new procedures for reversing court decisions, allowing for appealing directly to the Ukrainian Supreme Court—something that has long existed in legal practices of highly developed countries. All this complies with the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights specified in Chapter 14, item 5, which says that "anyone convicted of any crime has the right to have his case reexamined at a higher level," which is to say, by a court at a higher level than the court which passed the verdict.

The above-mentioned aspects of the concept are incompatible with the Ukrainian legal system, because appeals cannot protest any court decision.

Today, everyone understands that the judicial system needs to be changed as soon as possible; and the sooner the state gets busy with that issue and starts to implement it, the better. No new judicial codes can ever be approved without determining what kind of legal system we should have. In my opinion, even though the new Constitution may not ultimately determine the legal system structure in Ukraine, one should grapple with the most important question: What should the judicial branch be like and what are the guarantees of its independence? As for the structure itself, it is subject to changes at different stages of our state's development.

The Ukrainian Justice Ministry's approach to reforming the judicial system is as follows: Based on worldwide experience, we should preserve everything that does not contradict international organizations and recommendations by the United Nations, and everything positive and characteristic for the Ukrainian nation should be financially supported by the state. As the country's judicial system needs to be quickly reconstructed (by adopting legislation on a new judicial system and judicial proceedings), one should already determine its structure and the arrangement of judiciary elements within this structure. One should not forget that the reconstruction work must not fall into the following pattern: One element is abolished, while another is introduced. What is necessary is the specialization of judges, court buildings, and sufficient financing.

In the future, when Ukraine improves its economy, the judiciary structure can be reconstructed and upgraded. But we have to determine, also financially, what we have today.

I am convinced that the judicial system should be reformed by defining the competence of courts at all levels, as well as the procedures for revising court decisions; there should be three of them: appeal, prosecutor's appeal, and reopening of cases due to additional evidence. By the way, those forms of appeals have been included in a new draft law of the Ukrainian Criminal

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and Procedural Code being devised according to a decision by the previous Supreme Council.

The position of the Justice Ministry regarding the protesting of court decisions is as follows:

In our opinion, decisions of all judges could be appealed (except for those made by a jury) in the first instance. With relevant evidence on hand, the institution to which an appeal was sent can directly investigate evidence and order a new court hearing. The procedures for lodging an appeal, the scope of examination, and the grounds for revising the appealed decisions should be determined by procedural legislation. A prosecutor's appeal and its lodging is only allowed in two instances: misapplication of the law or a serious violation of procedural law. Cassation appeals [kasatsiyni skargy] are handled on a cassation basis, as well as the prosecutors' appeals of decisions made by judges and all court decisions made in the first instance—but only if they were not appealed earlier or those decisions regarding which the prosecutor failed to submit his appeal and they became valid.

In the cassation institution, the legality and correctness of decisions are verified against evidence gathered during a case.

Decisions of a cassation institution are final and can only be reversed if found in violation of the Constitution or if new evidence warrants such a move.

A reopening of cases due to new evidence can be initiated by protests filed by prosecutors if this evidence is actually found. The presently valid legislation specified them. New Criminal-Procedural and Civil-Procedural Codes of Ukraine will probably include necessary corrections based on experience accumulated by courts.

The reform of the judiciary system has to be directed at creating a single Ukrainian judiciary system, combining specialization and branch-based organization and the administrative and regional divisions. The single judiciary system could include specialized (branch) courts of certain elements (general, military courts, etc.), and the specialization of judges handling certain categories of cases, for example, criminal, civil, administrative, juvenile delinquency....

Rayon (town) courts are the main element of the judiciary system. They are present in every administrative rayon (town) connected with other residential areas with transportation links. This is convenient for people. We have already acquired negative experience connected with operation of inter-rayon (district) courts that consisted of three judges and were set up to handle the most complicated criminal cases and some civil cases. The remoteness of those courts from people's places of living and substandard public transportation resulted in long delays and quality of trials. Let me cite some examples.

One of every seven civil cases—precisely, 30,052—handled by the district courts was completed with procedural violations in the first six months of this year.

The quality of handling civil cases has deteriorated. In the first half of 1994, 6,064 decisions, 3.2 percent, were reversed based on prosecutor's orders, compared to 4,684 decisions, 2.6 percent, in the first half of 1993.

Elimination of rayon (town) courts will make legal services inaccessible to the population. One should also take into consideration the fact that the inter-rayon (district) courts will be left without necessary financial, material, and personnel support. Another thing: Introduction of district courts will call for introduction of district prosecutor's offices, complicating the process of running court statistics. As a result, criminal situation data in this particular administrative rayon (town) necessary for undertaking countermeasures will not be properly reflected.

The Ukrainian Supreme Council has recently adopted the law allowing a judge from a rayon (town) court to handle single-handedly all criminal cases assigned to him. Only a few cases will be lead by the court of three judges, if requested by the defendant. This will almost eliminate the need for courts made up of three judges. The current number of judges (3,276) in rayon (town) courts is sufficient for processing their cases.

So, I am convinced that the rayon (town) courts should remain an independent element in the system of general [zahalni sudy] courts. As for military courts, the garrison court should become the same independent element, covering not only one rayon, but also rayons of other oblasts where military units are located. Such an element is already operational and stable.

Independence of another element of the judiciary system should be preserved—oblast courts and military courts of regions and the Armed Forces. They should become the institutions receiving appeals of decisions made by rayon (town) courts and garrison military courts.

I believe that it is not expedient that the first-instance cases be handled by the next level of higher courts. Here is one of the reasons why: When the next higher court is the first instance, it will be necessary to create the cassation instance [kasatsiyna instantsiya] standing above it. Those filing their first-instance cases [sprava u pershiy instantsiyi] to the next higher courts talk about personal jurisdiction [personalna pidsudnist] of high-ranking officials. But according to the current legislation, do judges from the Ukrainian Constitutional, Supreme, and Supreme Arbitration Courts not have the high rank? However, the Law "On Status of Courts" determined that criminal cases regarding such judges are "handled in the first instance by oblast courts, the Crimean Supreme Court, the Kiev and Sevastopol city courts."

I believe that decisions made by a jury can be appealed on a cassation basis by the next higher court, but not the Supreme Court. The Supreme Cassation Court still needs to be created. It will unite all branch (general, military, economic) courts into a single court system. It will process prosecutors' appeals and applications

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

regarding decisions made by juries; appeal decisions [apelatsiyni rishennya] by oblast general courts and the Supreme Military and Economic Courts. It will also handle prosecutor's protests demanding reopening of cases, which were heard in courts above, due to new evidence. The Supreme Cassation Court would include corresponding specialized structures—collegiums.

Now about the Justice Ministry's understanding of functions performed by the Ukrainian Supreme Court. The state needs a Supreme Court that would unite all judiciary elements and provide guidelines for their court experience acquired by courts in all branches, strengthen the judicial power, and lay the groundwork for court precedents. Courts have a long way to go to achieve this because, first, courts have no single information system; second, military courts have only recently become part of the general court system; and third, economic courts operate as an independent branch. For the Supreme Court to meet all the above requirements, it should not be responsible for handling cases involving appeals and cassation protests, as well as cases in the first instance. In this case, it will be able to execute control over court activities, provide guidelines on legal issues, and examine appeals of decisions made by courts at a lower level (the Supreme Cassation Court) and approved on a cassation basis, but only if new evidence is found or the Constitution violated.

Now about justices of the peace [myrovyy suddya], whose introduction was also proposed. Such judges were once present in the history of our state. According to Court Statutes of 1864, they operated in Poltava, Kherson, Yekaterynoslavl, and other provinces. They were isolated from the general court system, and their verdicts could be reversed by conventions of justices of the peace. One should specify what these justices are: Are they public or professional justices? What cases will they handle? Will their activities be regulated by current legislation? Who will elect or appoint them? If cases of minor violations and some civil cases were to be examined by justices of the peace, one should draft and adopt a law on such courts. However, I believe that they can only be included in the system of courts when they are professional courts, not public.

So, in the opinion of the Justice Ministry, the single judiciary system should be as follows:

General courts: rayon (town) courts; oblast courts and courts with their powers. Military courts: courts of military garrisons, regions, the Ukrainian Armed Forces courts, and the Ukrainian Supreme Military Court. Economic courts: oblast economic courts, regional economic courts, and the Ukrainian Supreme Economic Court.

All those courts would constitute a single system, the Ukrainian Supreme Cassation Court. The Ukrainian Supreme Court should be the supreme court for all Ukrainian courts.

Administrative support to the courts' operation (except for the Ukrainian Supreme Court and other supreme courts) should be provided by the Ministry of Justice and the Justice Administration of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, and Kiev and Sevastopol Cities, in strict compliance with the principles of independence of judges and their subordination to the law.

A perception that judges can only be independent and proof against pressures in a judiciary system designed as a closed corporation, is erroneous.

It is a court's function to examine cases in compliance with current legislation. It is up to the legislative and executive branches of power to ensure that this function is performed.

The freeing of courts from pressure on the part of the executive branch should be carried out by improving laws that regulate their election or appointment, term in office, discharge procedures, immunity of judges, their social protection, and material and financial support.

To perform legal functions successfully, judges should be relieved of other distracting responsibilities. In 1963-1970, due to the absence of justice bodies [orhany yustytsiyi], administrative support was ensured by the courts themselves, which had a negative influence on their activity.

In addition, this would lead to administrative subordination of courts to the next higher level of courts, which, along with their procedural subordination, will transform courts into a closed administrative and command system; while the inability of other branches of power to control their activities would result in a lack of responsibility. The fact that the Ukrainian Law "On Review Commissions [atestatsiyni komisiyi], the Reviewing Professional Skills, and Disciplinary Responsibility" issued on 2 February 1994, gave judges the exclusive right to make nominations for judge positions and resolve issues of their accountability, has already resulted in many cases of irresponsibility.

We should increasingly ensure the independence of judges and simultaneously introduce new forms of control without interfering with their work.

We should also adopt a law on the state executive service within the Justice Ministry system, separated from courts, that would implement court decisions. By the way, a draft of this law is currently being devised by the ministry and courts.

I am convinced that discussion of the above issues at the Second Congress of Ukrainian Judges, set for this 20-21 October, will promote the crafting of a constructive program for reconstruction of the judiciary system.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Belarus

Chyhir To Expand Economic Relations With CIS

LD2610153994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1426 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By BELINFORM-TASS correspondent Mikhail Zhuravovich]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Minsk October 26 TASS—"We plan not merely to perpetuate, but to further expand our economic relations not with Russia alone, but with the other republics of the former [Soviet] Union, too," Belarus Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir said during his Tuesday evening meeting with German bankers. He also noted that talks to merge the monetary systems of the Belarus republic and the Russian Federation were suspended. But "if we feel the West's reluctance to render us aid, we shall be compelled to take up this problem again," he added.

The visit of German bankers to the Belarus republic was arranged within the framework of a regular meeting of the Belarus-German Council for Economic Cooperation. Germany is among the West European states which account for a major share of the republic's trade turnover. However, the prime minister believes this is far from sufficient in light of the potentialities possessed by the two states. He also noted that the Belarus legislation was being revised to create favourable conditions for business transactions. For instance, the problem of selling land to foreign investors has already been solved. The anti-crisis programme is also essentially of a market character. It devotes much attention to the stabilisation of national currency, to the liberation of prices, and to privatisation, the main principles of which, the prime minister believes, need to be corrected to accelerate the process.

According to Chyhir, the opening of a currency exchange in Minsk, serving as a link between the East and the West, will help their business circles to find common points of contact.

Chief Economic Adviser Interviewed on Strategy

WS2610141594 Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian 21 Oct 94 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Professor Ivan Mikhaylavich Lemyashewski, chief of the group of prime minister's advisers; by Vyachaslaw Zyankovich, place and date not given: "Chief of the Group of Advisers to the Prime Minister Speaks on Economic Strategy and Tactics of the New Government"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Correspondent Vyachaslaw Zyankovich is speaking with Professor Ivan Mikhaylavich Lemyashewski, chief of the group of prime minister's advisers.

[Zyankovich] **Ivan Mikhaylavich, President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has put forward a legislative initiative regarding the selling of land to Western investors—they are of primary importance to Belarus—"under personal control" of the leader of the state. Would it not be better to legitimize the purchase and sale of land, and establish a market for land?**

[Lemyashewski] In my opinion, when our president put forward this initiative, he did not refer to establishing a procedure for resolving this issue. Taking into consideration our society's lack of political maturity to the establishment of a land market, our president has rather chosen a line of action.

All members of the government fully realize that we cannot expect considerable foreign investments in our economy—I refer first of all to private capital—until the issue of private ownership on land is resolved. The president is simply in no physical condition to consider every investment project, not to mention his personal control over its implementation. I do not doubt that the sale and purchase of land will be legitimized in some time, however, we should not hurry to resolve this issue immediately. We should do it gradually by demonstrating the advantages of establishing a land market.

[Zyankovich] **The president is intending to declare an amnesty for legal entities—holding accounts abroad without appropriate licenses from the National Bank of Belarus [NBB]—who will transfer money to Belarusian banks before 31 March 1995. In the observers' opinion, Alyaksandr Lukashenka is thus fighting not against the reason which triggered such activities—an unfavorable tax system—but against its consequences. It is not profitable to hold hard currency in Belarusian banks....**

[Lemyashewski] Undoubtedly, we will not observe any revival of businesslike activities, until a favorable tax system is established in Belarus. This is, however, a subject for separate discussion.

Given the current situation, we should regard the president's initiative as an invitation for legal entities to develop qualitatively new relations and open a sincere dialogue with the government. An amnesty does not imply justification! Both the Cabinet of Ministers, and the president fully realize that—if tax laws are not changed—they will have to declare one more amnesty for legal entities in some six months. Moving from one amnesty to another is not a way to develop the national economy which should be at least moderately recovered.

[Zyankovich] **Do you think that provisions—regarding the stopping of inflation—contained in the presidential anti-crisis program can be implemented? According to this program, the inflation rate should be decreased by several times by early 1995.**

[Lemyashewski] If all measures—foreseen by the program of urgent measures to overcome the economic crisis in the Republic—are implemented, and if some

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

external factors—especially a cold winter or other calamity—do not emerge, this program can be implemented in its entirety.

You, as well as other representatives of our press, call the Lukashenka program an anti-crisis one. This is not at all what it is. This program foresees only the introduction of basic order in the economy. In general, the entire system of urgent measures can be implemented within the two next months. It is easy to instill basic order. If this process is prolonged, new problems could emerge.

We did not require any special intellectual efforts to draft this program because the ministries, departments, and groups of experts had quickly submitted proposals for our consideration. I am only surprised why our ministries had to wait for the political leadership of the state to change. These stabilizing measures could have been implemented before!

I am also concerned with the fact that the programs by the previous leadership had not been implemented at all. The new government is forced to implement their projects with the assistance of those people who successfully failed the previous ones. In my opinion, the presidential team and the government will have a great deal of similar obstacles. The old bureaucrat's "law"—"do not do things today which you can postpone until tomorrow"—could work again.

[Zyankovich] **What is your attitude toward the introduction of a national currency?**

[Lemyashewski] I positively assess this move in its long-term aspect. The introduction of a full-fledged national currency should be the final aim of implementing reforms in money-and-credit relations, that is, after the state curbs inflation and establishes a fund stabilizing the Belarusian currency. It is, however, absurd to currently introduce new banknotes as the sole legal tender.

There is a genuine currency in Belarus—the NBB payment coupons, or the so-called "hares." The key objective of the government and NBB is to introduce measures stabilizing the "hare."

Two approaches to resolving this issue are being discussed by our press. The first approach is an anti-monetary one foreseeing the placement of all the responsibility on industrialists and production managers, as well as on the governmental officials responsible for maintaining control over the state budget. All these measures, however, resemble the way a thermometer works—it shows whether a person is healthy or sick, however, it does not cure a patient.

The second approach is a monetary one, when only chiefs of monetary-and-credit institutions are responsible for the stability of the national currency. According to the advocates of this approach, all current problems could be resolved by regulating the receipts and expenditures of the state budget, by achieving an acceptable level of the budget deficit, by correcting relations between NBB and commercial banks, as well as by regulating issues regarding the refinancing and issuing of credits. This approach is correct, however, we should not forget about empty shelves in our shops. Money should be backed by goods!

The truth is, however, somewhat different. It is necessary to simultaneously implement both of the approaches. It is impossible to implement any plans if the economy is in disarray. The program of urgent measures was developed with this purpose in mind.

[Zyankovich] **As is known, Russia, in fact, is a monopolist in delivering oil, gas, and metals to Belarus. What is your attitude toward the alternative sources of energy resources and raw materials?**

[Lemyashewski] It is obvious that if the national economy is entirely dependent on deliveries of energy resources and raw materials from one source, it is impossible to properly strengthen the sovereignty of the national economy. Demonopolization of the sources of energy resources and raw materials is quite a normal process. Belarus should have a choice and buy the cheapest energy resources and raw materials. I believe this issue has also a political tinge to it. Both politicians and economists, however, should participate in resolving this problem! There are a lot of options of resolving this problem. They include the establishment of joint industrial-financial groups as well.

It is more profitable for Belarus to have alternative sources of energy resources and raw materials in any situation, irrespective of the degree of its economic integration with Russia. The idea of establishing a Baltic-Black Sea oil collector is rather constructive, deserves our attention, and should be thoroughly studied. Taking into consideration the strategically beneficial location of Belarus, our Republic has an interest in establishing this collector. This is not only in Belarus' interest. Virtually all the East European states have an interest in this oil collector.

The search for alternative oil sources is, however, a political issue which demands that the direction of Belarus' economic development be changed. The West fully realizes this idea and it could oppose the alternative deliveries of energy resources and raw materials to Belarus because they would like to challenge the penetration of Belarusian goods into Western markets and protect its national interests. Russia—which does not want to lose the extensive Belarusian market—realizes this situation as well.

Conservation of resources is also very important for Belarus. Belarus uses twice as many resources to produce the same GNP as an industrially developed state. Our economy is resource-intensive! Given this irrational consumption of energy resources, we will always lack energy resources, irrespective of the amount of resources purchased by us.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Zyankovich] **The former and current leaders of our state are declaring that the West does not welcome Belarus into its markets. Why does not our state in turn adopt measures to limit the import of various goods from the West?**

[Lemyashewski] You are right, the West does not welcome us. Their markets have already been divided according to the spheres of influence. They have introduced restrictions regarding their markets' penetration not because they are so bad, but rather because they are pursuing a consistent policy. The Western market is regulated by a package of documents which came into force long ago. Belarus' penetration into Western markets is restricted by the joint agreements concluded within the framework of the Western market and the existing principles of economic integration.

The current situation is simply inevitable if we take into consideration the openness of borders with the Western states and the drop in production in the former USSR republics. Therefore, goods from the West have substituted missing items at our domestic market because the social climate in Belarus depends on the availability of basic goods on the market.

[Zyankovich] **Instead of setting up its own national production of canned beer, we are importing it from Austria and Germany. Is the government satisfied with this situation or are you planning to change it and encourage Belarusian businessmen to invest money not in trading and sales, but in production?**

[Lemyashewski] Belarusian businessmen are, probably, dreaming about their own production, but they, however, are forced to buy cheap and sell dear to accumulate capital for their business. Banks do not gain any profit from issuing credits for individual production because such credits will not be reimbursed in the short run, in addition, a favorable tax climate has not been created. Foreign beer is penetrating our market and thus damaging the interests of Belarusian producers. There are, however, some more negative facts. To gain profits, traders in imported beer should exchange earned Belarusian rubles for foreign currency and then buy consignments of beer abroad. Taking into consideration a large number of such businessmen in the Republic, such operations with exchanging currency lead to increases in the demand for foreign currency and decreases in the exchange rate of the Belarusian ruble.

Therefore, trading-and-sales companies are promoting the negative economic influence of the West in Belarus. No agreements, however, have been conducted: Our businessmen are only observing economic laws. The objective of the new government is to improve the current situation and establish conditions for the efficient work of capital in Belarus.

Lukashenka Rejects EU as Alternative to CIS

LD2610192494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1809 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature; compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov and Andrey Petrovskiy and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Alyaksandr Lukashenka does not reject the ideas of a Eurasian Union, outlined by his Kazakh counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev. What Lukashenka objects to is regarding the EU as an alternative to the CIS, Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Tsepkalo told Interfax.

Tsepkalo would not describe the differences between the two president as a conflict even though there is a misunderstanding of the Belarussian position on the part of the Kazakh president.

IF Note: Lukashenko has been reported to disagree with the setting up of an EU on the basis of the CIS. Lukashenka has repeatedly told journalists that the CIS president should not discuss the setting up of an EU because, in his words, it is illogical to discuss consolidation of the CIS and then, the formation of an essentially different system.

Tsepkalo said that in Lukashenka's view numerous ideas advanced by Nazarbayev could be put into practice within the framework of the CIS without changing the name of the community of former USSR's republics. He insisted that both leaders had one goal in mind, integration, and differed only over approaches to this goal.

He said that the venue of the CIS Inter-State Economic Committee [ISEC] was an essential issue. Tsepkalo made it clear that the Belarussian leaders took a negative view of the decision, adopted by presidents of the CIS member states, to have the ISEC headquartered in Moscow. He recalled that under the Belaya Vezha agreements on the setting up of a commonwealth and the CIS Charter its coordinating structures had to be headquartered in Minsk, the capital of the depository country. Tsepkalo believed that if some CIS body was to be headquartered elsewhere, then the basic documents of the Commonwealth had to be revised.

He said that a Belarussian delegation had visited Moscow where it had brought three proposals on the buildings in Minsk where the ISEC could have premises. He admitted that Minsk did not have direct airlines with the capitals of numerous Central Asian countries but argued that this disadvantage could be offset by an ideological advantage in that having this body in Moscow would suggest to certain politicians that the ISEC was something like the USSR State Planning Committee. In Tsepkalo's view, the decision to headquarter the ISEC ignored the friction in the Moscow-Kiev dialog.

He said that Russian President Boris Yeltsin suggested that former Belarussian Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich could chair the ISEC by way of compensation for headquartering it in Moscow but Lukashenka strongly objected to this solution and nominated the current Belarussian Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Myasnikovich to that position. According to Tsepkalo, Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze suggested appointing

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Vladimir Mashits, chairman of the Russian State Cooperation Committee, to that position but Yeltsin rejected this nomination. Tsepkalo explained that the candidacy of Myasnikovich would be discussed at the next CIS summit.

Lukashenka Briefs Cabinet on CIS Summit

WS2610114594 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0400 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A Cabinet of Ministers session was held on 25 October under the chairmanship of Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka. Participants in the session addressed the issues that emerge from the negotiations held by the CIS heads of state and government in Moscow, and the resolutions passed. Alyaksandr Lukashenka delivered an extensive speech at the session. The president informed the participants in detail on the course and results of the Moscow summit, as well as the results of bilateral negotiations with the leaders of the CIS states. He submitted an in-depth analysis of the situation in the CIS and the Republic, the Cabinet of Ministers' activities, and outlined the scope of problems that deserve close attention on the part of the Republic's leadership.

Moldova

Official Discusses Russian Troop Withdrawal

MM2610163994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Sergey Knyazkov: "Agreement on 14th Army's Withdrawal Signed. But Will Russian Soldiers Be Leaving the Left Bank of the Dniester Soon?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] KRASNAYA ZVEZDA recently (19 October) reported that Russia and Moldavia [Moldova] had agreed once and for all the text of an agreement on the status, procedure for, and dates of the 14th Russian Army's withdrawal from the Dniester Region. This document was signed in Moscow 21 October. By Russian Federation Government Chairman Viktor Chernomyrdin and Moldavian [Moldovan] Prime Minister Andrei Sangheli. The text of the agreement points out that it comes into force immediately after the "requisite intrastate procedures have been carried out" and the Russian troops are to be withdrawn from Moldavia three years from then.

The decision adopted in Moscow elicited disparate reactions in Kishinev [Chisinau] and Tiraspol. The Moldavian leadership is satisfied with the signed agreement. In connection with the 14th Army's upcoming withdrawal from the Dniester Region, Moldavian Foreign Minister Mihai Popov even asked Russian servicemen to carry on serving in the Moldavian Armed Forces.

"The Russian troops that have been in the region for over 100 years are not only a guarantor of peace but also part of the Dniester people," Aleksandr Karaman, vice president of the Dniester Moldavian Republic [DMR], told ITAR-TASS.

According to him, the soldiers and officers will not go back to Russia where they have no one waiting for them, they will remain on their territory, out of fear for their relatives in particular. Noting that Moldavia's military potential is four times superior to the DMR's forces, Aleksandr Karaman recalled that "there are still people in Kishinev who want to resolve the Dniester problem by military means."

This viewpoint is also shared by Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army. The commander is convinced that until the Dniester problem has been resolved, only the commander with his banner and seal can be withdrawn. Personnel, the bulk of whom come from the Dniester Region, will not leave. "They will have no certainty," he said," that their relatives will not fall victim to more dissension."

"When it comes to the question of the Russian troop withdrawal, Tiraspol's leaders are primarily interested in the possibility of 'stealing things from the army that they have not yet managed to steal,'" Aleksandr Lebed emphasized.

According to him, no agreement has been reached on fundamental issues—the division of the army's moveable property and real estate. It has been calculated in purely theoretical terms how much belongs to Russia and how much should be handed over to Moldavian local organs of power. But who represents them in the Dniester Region? The commander commented on the signed agreement, pointing to two positive elements: "The Russian-Moldavian talks are over and the army has been given a clear legal status." "I hope that after this no one will have grounds to call us 'occupiers,'" Lt. Gen. Lebed pointed out. "At the moment I pin no particular hopes on the talks to settle the Dniester problem, the resolution of which is to a certain extent being linked with the Russian troops' withdrawal. Both Moldavian and Dniester experts have come up with mutually unacceptable plans for the region's special status and it will be hard for them to reach agreement," the army commander said in conclusion.

Officials Fear Effects of Army Withdrawal

AU2610201694 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1930 GMT 24 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 24/10/1994—The Chisinau and Tiraspol officials made contradictory statements on the signing of the 14th Army's withdrawal agreement and the possible repercussions to the negotiations on granting Dniester special status. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Nicolae Osmochescu, head of the Moldova experts' group in the negotiations with Tiraspol, told BASA that "Moldova has all reasons to be optimistic as far as the granting of

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the special juridical status is concerned." According to Osmochescu, none of the stipulations included in the agreement denies previous agreements. He implied that once the agreement was signed, the situation would be changed in Chisinau's favor, since the Russian troops' removal might represent a possible tool of political pressure. Valeriy Litskay, Dniester foreign minister, stated to BASA that so far, the Dniester officials have not received any copy of the agreement signed between Sangheli and Chernomyrdin. He said that the Tiraspol side participating in talks as observer walked out during the last round as a protest. Therefore, Tiraspol does not have enough information to assess the agreement, Litskay said. The Dniester authorities expressed their negative attitude toward the signing of the 14th Army's withdrawal agreement in Moscow. Aleksandr Karaman, Dniester vice president, told BASA that the signing of this agreement could mean the beginning of a weapon race between Moldova and Dniester. "There's a balance of forces in the region. According to the agreement, Moldova will take over a part of the 14th Army's military equipment. Dniester will receive nothing. Thus, we'll have to assure our security by ourselves," said Karaman. He said that Russia and Moldova did not take into account the realities and employed abstract articulations in the agreement like "synchronization of Russian troops' withdrawal with concrete measures of granting Dniester a special juridical status." "This means that for every 10 percent of military contingent withdrawn, Dniester will receive 10 percent of sovereignty," stated Karaman, mentioning that the agreement was reduced to the fact that "two sides signed an agreement on troops' withdrawal from the territory of a third side." He also said that the Dniester authorities are controlling the situation in Dniester, but it will take great efforts to maintain the balance of forces in the region.

Andronik Threatens Bucharest With CIS Troops

AU2510163794 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 19 Oct 94 p 14

[Camelia Muntean note: "The Republic of Moldova Threatens Romania With Massing CIS Troops at the Common Border"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "The latest statements from Romania's leaders, according to whom unification with Moldova is possible, give a further boost to the Moldovan supporters of Chisinau's joining the CIS security system to intensify their activity. The consequence of this will surely be the massing of joint Moldovan-CIS troops at the Romanian border," Nikolay Andronik, vice president of Moldova's Parliament told ITAR-TASS.

In the end, a furious Nikolay Andronik gives Romania an ultimatum, due to expire at the beginning of next year: If Romania continues to come up with rumors of unification, Moldova will speedily stifle them by organizing a referendum which, in the opinion of Nikolay Andronik, will remove any hope of union.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Comments on Situation in Republic

LD2610234694

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1500 GMT on 26 October carries the program Mir Interstate Broadcasting Company on the Air entitled "About Ourselves: 1,030 Days of Kazakhstan's Independence," which examines developments in Kazakhstan since its independence almost three years ago. The program also analyses the present situation in the republic. A large part of the program is taken up with interviews with ordinary citizens about the difficulties of life. It also includes a 3-minute interview with President Nursultan Nazarbayev, who speaks in general terms about relations between the former Soviet republics.

Nazarbayev says: "I think one of the realities of today's hard times is that the CIS states, the republics of the former Soviet Union, still do not realize that if we pool our efforts and help one another, we could progress along our respective paths with fewer losses. However, selfish political and state considerations and the opinion—If I stay on my own, it will be easier for me to sort things out—though no one has been able to sort them out—aggravates the situation, to my great regret. Perhaps this is natural. Perhaps this sovereignty, this independence has to reach a certain point before people begin to understand this. I think in 10 or 15 years we will all be saying: Why did we do this to ourselves?"

Nazarbayev continues: "An independent and sovereign status is not an end in itself. It is established in order to improve the life of the people. If many states in the world delegate part of their sovereignty and get wealth and prosperity in return, this is not at all bad; on the contrary, this is good. Therefore, I think we should adhere to this principle: prosperity and progress through uniting."

The program also shows extracts from a news conference given by Nazarbayev on 11 October after the Tereshchenko government resigned.

There is also a substantial extract from Nazarbayev's news conference in Moscow on the outcome of the 22 October summit of CIS heads of government. During this news conference, Nazarbayev speaks about dual citizenship in the CIS, the harvest, and fuel supply situation in Kazakhstan:

"It is now two years since I first suggested that an interstate economic committee be set up. This idea has finally been implemented, but half the states are against it. We are accepting the Payments Union, and it appears that all the main ideas suggested in the memorandum have been taken on board in the integration program. However, I said, no at this point and began asking my colleagues several questions. How will the arrangements we are making work, I asked. These are the 451st, 452nd, and 453rd documents since the foundation of the CIS.

"I asked them all the same question. You journalists are also entitled to ask the same question of all the presidents. I am your colleague, I said, so I am asking you one and the same question. Answer it please. We have adopted various documents. Who will standardize legislation? If we are not going to have a CIS parliament, as we propose, who will standardize legislation? What body will handle citizenship issues? We believe that any individual should automatically be able to obtain the citizenship of another country, if he so wishes, and that there should be free movement of persons across the Commonwealth. This would remove all problems, insinuations, and speculation over dual citizenship, and so on. In such states as Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and so on dual citizenship would automatically turn a third of the population into second-class citizens. Instead of reassuring people, it will sow the seeds of discord.

"Next, which body will ensure the security of this area? Who will guarantee mutual recognition of existing state borders and reassure all of us? How will fulfilment of the pledge not to use pressure of any kind against each other be guaranteed? Who will ensure real protection of human rights? Which body will do this? What bodies will ensure that unfriendly attitudes towards each other are discouraged, and how? Who will be responsible for tackling the ecological problems which we listed? What body will be responsible for the gradual building of the common market which all the presidents have spoken about, and how? How will this be done? What body will be responsible for the decisions taken by us, and how? Who will supervise them and who will report on them at subsequent meetings? So, esteemed colleagues, I said, I ask you to answer all these questions.

"Everybody said that the idea of a Eurasian Union [EAS]... Since June, incidentally, there have been 160 articles about the EAS in the mass media of Russia, Kazakhstan, other FSU states and elsewhere in the world. I am grateful to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA and to (Vitaliy Bortnikov), who is actually here at the news conference, for being the only newspaper to publish the entire text of this idea, this proposal. Since then there have been 160 analyses, articles and so on. There have been three conferences in Moscow. On 20 September there was a conference in Almaty. Everybody noted that the EAS idea has given impetus to integration processes and, thanks to this, we adopted the idea of the Interstate Economic Committee, the Payments Union, and the program. So, thank you.

"As far as my personal position is concerned, I live here in the EAS, and nowhere else."

[Correspondent] "Nursultan Abishevich, one day earlier NTV published a report that the position regarding the grain harvest is fairly critical in Kazakhstan. Twelve out of 19 regions have not gathered sufficient grain. What is

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

your assessment of the situation and what are Kazakhstan's prospects in this respect?"

[Nazarbayev] "I am very sorry that while Russia and Kazakhstan have the closest possible relations and are mutually integrated to a very high degree and while I maintain most close, trustful and friendly relations with the Russian leaders, at the same time the mass media are whipping up passions in this manner. For some reason, however, our refutations have not been published. Despite all difficulties, we have gathered in an average harvest of 19-20 million tonnes—whereas Kazakhstan's own demand is approximately 6-8 million tonnes. We have completed the harvesting in all areas, without any losses. For the first time in the history of grain-growing in Kazakhstan, we have not contracted any vehicles or combine operators from outside the country, because people are now being careful with their money. We shall be able to export 6-8 million tonnes of grain crops, which for Kazakhstan is an impressive figure. And generally speaking, all the questions of supplying vegetables, fruit, and other foodstuffs have been sorted out completely, so there will be no hunger and no cold in Kazakhstan."

Kyrgyzstan

EBRD Representatives Meet President Akayev

LD2610175394 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Intensification and expansion of the assistance rendered by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] to Kyrgyzstan was the topic of discussions held between the official group of representatives from this major financial organization and Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev, who met them. The EBRD has prepared a report which classifies all post-communist countries in three groups according to their abilities to find a way out of economic crisis. The first group includes the Baltic states, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia. The second group consists of all the other East European countries, as well as Russia and Kazakhstan. The third group consists of all the other CIS republics. The EBRD assumes that if the countries in the third group are expected to experience further economic crisis then, in particular, our republic and Russia have the chance to improve their economic situation. A great deal of effort is required.

Akayev Able To Set Date for Elections

LD2610192994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1809 GMT 26 Oct 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The positive results of the referendum conducted in Kyrgyzstan on Saturday [22 October] enable the president to fix a date for early elections to a new two-chamber parliament and issue a decree on the procedure of holding them, President Askar Akayev said in an exclusive interview with Interfax.

Elections to the new parliament will be conducted on the basis of proportional system. It provides for nominating candidates from territorial districts to the 35-member legislative chamber and to the 70-member house of representatives separately.

As the president said, the functions of the legislative chamber will be confined to legislative work on permanent basis, while the house of representatives will deal with the issues of state policy and convene for sessions. The right of members of the house of representatives to combine parliamentary activity with other work does not apply to government members who, if elected to parliament, will have to give up their posts in the Cabinet.

Kyrgyzstan greatly needs a two-chamber parliament at its period of transition which will last for at least ten years, Akayev pointed out. The endeavors to step up market reforms demand that legislation in the economic area be improved without delay, he added. The president hopes that a legislative chamber working permanently will cope with this task successfully.

To eliminate the obvious discrepancy between the pace of reforms and the old legislative acts in the area of economics will be the principal goal of the new legislators, Akayev said. According to him, the processes of privatization and denationalization need adequate legislative support.

The president hopes that the new parliament's membership will make it possible to maintain a balance of interests between the various areas of multinational Kyrgyzstan.

To idealize parliament excessively is as dangerous as to create personality cult, Akayev said. Parliaments may degenerate, and sometimes they are not the place where important problems are resolved fairly. That is why it's particularly important that participants in Saturday's referendum voted in favor of another essential amendment to the Constitution which stipulates the people's right to correct fundamental laws.

Tajikistan

Niyazov, Pakistani Premier Sign Agreements

LD2610183794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1403 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Glazovskaya]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ashkhabad [Ashgabat], 26 Oct—Pakistan will grant Turkmenistan credit to the sum of 10 million dollars. An agreement on this was reached during

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the course of talks between Saparmurad Niyazov, the president of Turkmenistan, and Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani prime minister. She arrived in Ashkhabad today to attend the celebrations to mark the third anniversary of the republic's independence.

During the talks agreements were signed on bilateral trade and economic cooperation, the mutual encouragement and protection of investments, a concept on the elimination of dual taxation, and a protocol on setting up a joint Turkmen-Pakistani government commission. The readiness of the two states to build an economic bridge between their two states via the northern regions of Afghanistan was also endorsed.

Foreign Minister Meets CSCE Representative

LD2610144694 Dushanbe Tajikistan Radio Network in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid Alimov recently met with Mr. (Ghanchi-Ghanchi), acting head of the CSCE mission in the Republic of Tajikistan. They discussed issues connected to the forthcoming referendum on adopting a new Constitution for the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik presidential elections, as well as various issues of socio-political development in the country. They touched on the CSCE's special role in Tajikistan in achieving national reconciliation and in developing the democratic processes in our country.

Rashid Alimov emphasized the need for more active participation by Tajikistan in the Helsinki process and in creating all the conditions for the mission to accomplish its mandate. In the foreign minister's opinion, the CSCE's activities directed at accelerating the integration of the countries of Central Asia in the Helsinki process is of particular significance under present conditions.

Members of the CSCE mission talked about their plans for further activities in Tajikistan, which include cooperation in the preparation of a new law on parliamentary elections in Tajikistan and human rights issues, as well as holding a number of seminars on legal issues.

CSCE Experts Invited To Monitor Elections

LD2610114994 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1100 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] According to the Foreign Ministry's information department, Foreign Minister Rashid Alimov has received a telegram from Mrs. Audrey Glover, director of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe's office for democratic institutions and human rights. The telegram says that a group of experts will be sent to Tajikistan at the invitation of that country's leadership in connection with a nationwide referendum on the adoption of the constitution and the presidential elections.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Holds Talks With Pakistan's Bhutto

BK2610141294 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1300 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan held talks in Ashkhabad today on wide-ranging subjects. PTV representative Ziauddin Batt reports from Ashkhabad that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto who flew in to the Turkmenistan capital today on a three-day official visit was given a warm reception when she arrived at the presidential palace for the talks. Three deputy prime ministers of Turkmenistan were present at the palace to greet the Pakistani prime minister.

The two leaders during their talks exchanged views on a number of international, regional, and bilateral issues. Our representative says that the Kashmir issue and the Bosnian problem figured prominently during the talks, which lasted for more than an hour. Situation in Afghanistan was another issue which was discussed threadbare at the talks. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto briefed President Niyazov on the latest situation in Kashmir and the efforts her government has made to persuade India to stop human rights violations in the occupied valley. The two leaders also expressed concern over the genocide of Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina and stressed the need for effective measures by the United Nations and the civilized nations in order to protect the innocent Muslims.

On Afghanistan, they were of the view that differences between the rival groups be settled in a peaceful manner and bloodshed be stopped at all cost. Our representative understands that the two sides also examined ways and means to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Pakistan and Turkmenistan today signed five agreements after talks between Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Saparmurad Niyazov in Ashkhabad today.

On arrival in Ashkhabad earlier today, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was accorded a warm and cordial welcome. Her visit is in response to an invitation of Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov to participate in the independence day celebrations of Turkmenistan being held on 27 October. The celebrations are also being attended by the presidents of Turkey and Iran. As the prime minister alighted from the aircraft, she was warmly welcomed by President Saparmurad Niyazov.

Earlier, on her departure for Ashkhabad, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was seen off at the Islamabad airport among others by her principal secretary, Mr. Ahmad Saleh; political secretary, Mr. Navid Malik; Punjab ministers, Malik Mushtaq Awan and Chaudhary Afzal Sindhu; member of the National Assembly, Sardar Mansur Leghari; and other high-ranking officials.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

More on Bhutto Talks

BK2710025994 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov has fully supported Pakistan's stand on the Kashmir issue and agreed to consider how his country can help Pakistan in highlighting the issue at the international level. He said this during his talks with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. The regional situation, including that of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, was especially highlighted during the talks. In his briefing to reporters, Foreign Secretary Najmuddin Sheikh said both sides agreed to consolidate steps essential for establishing peace and stability in Afghanistan. Both sides also agreed to take concerted steps to forge an understanding between rival groups in Afghanistan. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto apprised President Niyazov in detail of the situation in Kashmir, where Indian troops deployed in large numbers are committing atrocious acts. She also informed the Turkmen president of Pakistan's efforts to link Central Asian countries by rail and road via Afghanistan and Turkmenistan. She agreed that Pakistan is a vast and profitable market for export of gas from Turmenistan, which can also be supplied to the Far East. She also agreed to review the possibilities for laying a pipeline from Turkmenistan to the seashore via Afghanistan.

The prime minister also had separate meetings with Turkish President Suleyman Demirel and Azerbaijani President Heydar Aliyev and exchanged views with them. At these meetings, bilateral cooperation on various issues of bilateral and regional importance were discussed.

Radio Pakistan's Special representative, Abdullah (Viser) said the prime minister will participate in celebrations for the national day of Turkmenistan in Ashkhabad this morning as a special guest of the Turkmen president along with other leaders of the region.

Rafsanjani Arrives in Ashgabat for Celebrations

LD2610162694 Tehran IRNA in English 1516 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ashkhabad [Ashgabat], Oct. 26, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani arrived here Wednesday [26 October] on a two-day official visit and was given a red carpet welcome at the airport.

President Saparmurad Niyazov and other top officials of Turkmenistan received the Iranian president and his accompanying delegation.

National anthems of the two countries were sung and special units of the armed forces of Turkmenistan held a parade in honor of President Rafsanjani.

After the ceremonies in Ashkhabad airport, the two presidents held the first round of talks at the presidential building.

Rafsanjani is here to attend the independence anniversary celebrations of Turkmenistan.

In an airport interview, President Rafsanjani termed as "broad and all-out" Tehran-Ashkhabad relations.

He said Iran and Turkmenistan enjoyed "very favorable" relations and conditions of the two sides required more cooperation.

The president said his visit to Ashkhabad was in response to several visits to Tehran of Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov.

Rafsanjani added that Niyazov had invited him to attend the celebrations marking the anniversary of Turkmenistan's independence.

He added that his visit to Ashkhabad would render him a suitable opportunity to exchange views with a number of various heads of state who are to participate in the celebrations as well.

They include presidents of Turkey and Azerbaijan and prime minister of Pakistan.

Referring to the pipeline to export Turkmen natural gas to Europe via Iranian soil, President Rafsajani said joint measures by the two countries was a suitable opportunity for cooperation, which, he hoped, would be consolidated in the aftermath of his visit to Ashkhabad.

He said that technical works for laying of the pipeline had been finalized and agreements on the field inked.

Demirel Comments on Alawite-Sunni Issue, Energy

TA2710083394 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 2110 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Kandemir Alpan video report from Ashgabat]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Suleyman Demirel, who is in Turkmenistan on an official visit, answered journalists' questions at a dinner meeting in Ashgabat this evening.

In answer to a question, Demirel said that nobody will benefit from provoking the Alawite-Sunni issue in Turkey. Adding that there are incitements to that effect, Demirel noted that they come from the outside, especially from certain cells in Germany. Demirel said: The presence of various sects and faiths in Turkey in addition to peoples from different ethnic origins should not be considered a weakness; on the contrary, Turkey can use this situation to make itself stronger, and it should do so.

Demirel stressed that the republic, democracy, laicism, and the Muslim religion are not contradictory and added that Turkey should give additional consideration to these matters but not by prompting animosity or separatism. I seek democracy and peace, he said.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In answer to a question, Demirel said that Turkey's biggest problem is the energy issue and added that Turkey should start initiating mega-projects in 1995 to prevent darkness from falling on Turkey in 1998.

Demirel and his accompanying delegation will return to Turkey tomorrow after concluding their contacts in Turkmenistan.

Natural Gas Agreement Signed

TA2610163294 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1200 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Video report by Rahmi Aygun in Ashgabat]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] On the second day of his visit to Turkmenistan, President Suleyman Demirel visited a handicrafts exhibition in Ashgabat. He arrived with Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov and received gifts. The two presidents then visited a Turkmen tent.

After that, Demirel visited a mosque under construction which is being financed by the Turkish Religious Affairs Waqf and built by a Turkish company. [passage omitted]

Later, bilateral agreements were signed in Ashgabat on the transportation of natural gas, on the construction of a natural gas power station in Turkmenistan, and on cooperation in maritime trade.

Under the natural gas transportation agreement which was signed by Demirel and Niyazov, Turkey undertakes to buy Turkmen natural gas and to deliver it to other countries in transit, while Turkmenistan undertakes to sell the gas to Turkey.

Under the other two agreements signed by the concerned ministers, the two countries agreed to build a 500-megawatt natural gas power station around Nebit Dag in Turkmenistan, and to cooperate in maritime trade. [passage omitted]

Uzbekistan

U.S.-Uzbek Joint Venture in Gold Extraction

MM2510133394 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 25 Oct 94 p 3

[Report by Rustem Tell: "Gold Will Increase"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tashkent—The American-Tashkent Chamber of Commerce session in Tashkent confirmed the sides' great interest in doing joint business. That is clearly why 11 of the republic's biggest corporations, associations, and banks promptly filed an application to join the new organization. From the American side, very well-known companies like Boeing and Newmont Mining have secured poll position. And the result? Well, take for example the joint venture extracting gold from the tailings of mines in the gold-bearing Zarevshan Valley, an enterprise which produces a profit for both parties.

Supreme Assembly Election Preparations Continue

LD2710093194 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 27 Oct 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Preparations for the elections to the Supreme Assembly of the Republic of Uzbekistan have entered an important stage in accordance with the 23 October 1994 resolution of the Uzbek Supreme Council on holding elections to the Supreme Assembly [Oliy Majlis] of the Republic of Uzbekistan and to regional, district, and town councils of people's deputies of the first convocation. Constituencies have been formed in all the regions of the republic and the city of Tashkent in strict conformity with the law on elections to the Uzbek Supreme Assembly, and regional electoral commissions have been approved.

Since 18 October this year candidates have been nominated to the Supreme Assembly in accordance with Articles 20 and 22 of the law. Councils of people's deputies of Syr Darya, Dzhizak, Khorezm, Navoi, Bukhara, Surkhandaria, and Tashkent have proposed candidates to the Supreme Council in the constituencies situated in their territories.

The candidates include lawyers, economists, engineers, teachers, health care workers, collective farms, joint stock and commercial structures, culture and art, and representatives of various branches of the economy.

Having considered the requests by the councils of people's deputies of the aforementioned regions and Tashkent on registering the candidates and other submitted documentation, the Central Electoral Commission for elections to the Uzbek Supreme Assembly concluded that they conform to the requirements of the law.

The Central Electoral Commission is registering the candidates proposed by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, councils of people's deputies of the regions, and Tashkent, which will be reported in the press.

In conformity with the law, the list of proposed candidates to the Uzbek Supreme Assembly will be published in the republican newspapers, the newspapers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, the regions, and Tashkent.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Armenia

'Sources' Say Azeris Receive Ukraine Tanks

NC2610153794 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0720 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("AZG" daily), 10/26/94—As previously, the Azeri Army has been violating the cease fire from time to time, and shelling the Armenian positions at the Karabakh fronts.

The Karabakh defense positions in Martakert, Agdam and Fizuli districts were shelled yesterday. No casualties were reported. Karabakh forces refrained from returning the fire.

According to military experts of Karabakh, cease fire is being violated by those units under the control of former Azeri Prime Minister Suret Guseynov and former President Ayaz Mutalibov.

RMK [Republic of Mountainous Karabakh] military reconnaissance reports that 150 inspectors recently arrived from Turkey to Azerbaijan, and are currently training the Azeri recruits in training centers of Baku and Ganja. According to the same sources, Azerbaijan recently received 50 tanks from Ukraine. Possibly, the Azeri army is going to violate the cease-fire and commence large- scale military operations against Mountainous Karabakh again.

IMF Negotiations Finished, Economic Program Developed

NC2610173894 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0720 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("Azg" daily - Past), 10/26/94—Negotiations between the representatives of RA [Republic of Armenia] Government and International Monetary Fund, which have already been lasting for a few weeks, are finished. The goal of negotiations was to provide Armenia with financial aid by IMF donor- countries.

A program of economic changes has been developed as a result of negotiations, for implementation of which the IMF will render Armenia a few millions of US dollars. Implementation of the program will start after it is confirmed by the Chief Executive Officer of the International Monetary Fund and RA authorities.

Parliament Continues Session, Changes Laws

NC2610173994 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0720 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("RESPUBLICA ARMENIA" daily), 10/26/94—The session of the RA [Republic of Armenia] Supreme Council continued its work on October 25. The parliament included in its agenda the topic of law violations regarding the events in Gyumri on October 19.

The parliament also accepted corrections to the law "On military service", according to which the terms of service in the army will increase from 1.5 to 2 years (and from 1 year to 1.5 years for high school graduates). Additions to the law "On privatization of state enterprises" were also made.

The parliament has been discussing the events in Gyumri during the whole afternoon. The Supreme Council secretary Varazdat Avoian made a report in this regard on behalf of the presidium.

Azerbaijan

Baku Refuses To Allow Hijacked Plane To Land

LD2610143794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1402 GMT 26 Oct 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[FBIS Translated Text] Baku, 26 Oct—Azerbaijan has today officially refused to allow the Russian Yak-40 plane hijacked on Tuesday [25 October] by terrorists in Makhachkala to land. No official explanation on this score has been forthcoming. However, it has become known from informed sources that the plane has been prohibited from landing by the Ministry of Defense of Azerbaijan, evidently to prevent tension rising in the republic's capital where a state of emergency has been in force for over two weeks now.

According to an informed source in the law enforcement bodies, work on identifying the terrorists has shown that one of them—Asif Kuliyev—originally from the Azerbaijani town of Agdam, is not registered anywhere and it is highly likely that he has not been resident in the republic recently. As for the second terrorist, Elton Mekhti-zade from Zardrobskiy Rayon in Azerbaijan, according to the information available, he used to live in a Baku hostel. The above mentioned source stressed that these details were only preliminary.

Iranian Envoy, Aliyev Discuss Terrorism

LD2610225594 Tehran IRNA in English 2136 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, Oct. 26, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador to Azerbaijan 'Ali Akbar Nehavandian in a meeting with Azeri President Geydar Aliyev here last night underscored the need for Tehran-Baku cooperation in the campaign against terrorism.

Nehavandian briefed Aliyev on the 16-year long organized terrorism activities of enemies of the Islamic revolution against Iranian officials.

He condemned the recent assassination of two Azeri officials and called for cooperation among world countries, especially between Iran and Azerbaijan, to struggle against terrorism.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The ambassador conveyed congratulatory messages from Iranian officials to Aliyev on the third anniversary of the republic's independence from decades of Soviet rule, and said Islamic Iran has always supported Azerbaijan's independence and territorial integrity.

He added that President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his Friday prayer sermons some weeks back had announced the Iranian Government and people's interest in return of tranquility and stability to the Azerbaijan Republic.

Referring to the coming visit to Baku of Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri and Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, Nehavandian called for speeding up the process for cooperation in the oil sector and the setting up of cement factories in Azerbaijan by Irans 'Azarab' company.

He also underlined necessity of a railway link between the two countries on the Astara borders. The Iranian port city of Astara in gilan province is separated by a border strip from the Azeri city of same name.

He stressed on inauguration of border markets at the Bilehsawar and Astara borders which were included in agreements reached between Iranian and Azeri officials during Aliyev's visit to Tehran last June.

Aliyev thanked Iran for its humanitarian assistance to his country and underlined the need for executing the provision of the agreements reached between the two countries.

He also called on his advisors to seriously probe into the issues raised at the meeting.

Aliyev thanked Iranian officials for their congratulatory messages on independence anniversary of Azerbaijan and said. [as received]

He also appreciated Iran's efforts in helping maintain his country's independence.

Referring to the age-old, traditional, historical and cultural relations between Azerbaijan with the rest of Iran, Aliyev called as "natural" the full-fledged expansion of Tehran-Baku relations.

He hoped to meet President Rafsanjani in Ashkhabad [Ashgabat], where the two presidents have been invited by Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov to attend Turkmenistan's independence day celebrations along with Turkish President Suleyman Demirel and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Leaves for Vienna

NC2610204094 Baku TURAN in English 1043 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku (October 26) TURAN—Yesterday the delegation of Azerbaijan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs headed bv Deputy Foreign Minister, Tofik Zulfugarov, left for Vienna for participation in the talks concerning sending of peacemaking forces to the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict zone.

State Adviser for International Affairs, Vafa Guluzade, said that side by side with the current issues, the mandate of peacemaking forces will also be discussed in Vienna. Vafa Guluzade said that the CSCE has mandate from March 1, 1992, but it is not applied to peacemaking forces. "In fact, this document can be rejected. But if discuss the issue constructively, this mandate can be applied to the international peacemaking forces", State Adviser said.

Earlier speaking with Turan's correspondent, Vafa Guluzade said that "Azerbaijan will never permit peacemaking forces of only one state to enter its territory [sentence and item received unfinished]

Aliyev Comments Before Leaving for Turkmenistan

NC2610155894 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1300 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Relations are expanding and consolidating among countries that share the same language, religion, and culture with Azerbaijan. This is shown by President Geydar Aliyev's participation in the celebrations to mark Turkmenistan's independence day.

With mass actions, the people have started marking this holiday now listed among the sacred holidays in the country. President Saparmurad Niyazov took part in the inauguration of a number of installations commissioned on the eve of the holiday. The mosque built with money provided by the Shaykh of Qatar, the modern (?Alkatar)-type telephone exchange built with the assistance of the specialist of Spain's (?Alkatar) Standard Electric firm, the bricks factory built with the assistance of Kizilganat firm of Turkmenistan, and the formula factory built by Turkey's (?Expar) firm are among such enterprises.

The performance of folk songs will be another feature of this holiday. The best examples of Turkmen music will be performed.

The opening of the international airport in the Republic coincided with the arrival of the Turkish President Suleyman Demirel, who was first among the honorary guests to arrive in Ashgabat.

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani were cordially welcomed today in the capital of Turkmenistan.

And, a few hours ago the country's leadership welcomed the Azerbaijani president and accompanying officials at this international airport.

Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev left for Ashgabad today at the invitation of the Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov to take part in the celebrations marking the country's independence day. The Republic's

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

president made a statement to our reporter Nermina Elikhanbeyli for our program at Bina airport.

[Begin recording] [Elikhanbeyli] Will you be holding talks other than participating in this ceremony?

[Aliyev] Certainly, certainly. In general, ties between Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan have been very close in the past. Now, there is a need to further improve our ties as independent states. This is required by our geographical location and proximity, our common national past, and so on. At the same time, this is an opportunity to meet and talk with the other heads of state there. There is a need to meet and talk with them for the sake of our own work in general and our geopolitical affairs. Therefore, I have accepted Turkmenistan President Niyazov's invitation and I am going on a visit there. [end recording]

Rasul Guliyev, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, deputy chairmen of the Supreme Soviet, Acting Prime Minister Fuat Guliyev, deputy prime ministers, state advisers, ministers, and heads of committees and enterprises saw off Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev at the airport.

Aliyev on Oil Deal; Gasanov on CIS Interference

MM2610162594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Oct 94 p 6

[From the "Foreign News" column of news agency reports: "No Right To Interfere"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Speaker of the Azerbaijan parliament Guliyev has stated that the Assembly must ratify the oil deal between Azerbaijan and the consortium of Western companies before the end of October.

In President Aliyev's opinion, Moscow will not object to the Azerbaijan contract but is insisting on the cooperation of the Caspian states on questions of fishing and the environment.

Azerbaijan Foreign Minister Gasanov stated that no CIS economic or political structures are entitled to interfere in Azerbaijan's internal affairs.

Georgia

Abhkhazia Claims War Damages from Tbilisi

LD2610175194 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1500 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 26th [dateline as received]—The Abkhazian representation in Moscow has issued a statement saying that, as a result of the war on Abkhaz territory in 1992 and 1993, Abkhazia has suffered damage worth 52 billion dollars [figure as received]. The statement says that it will be impossible to settle relations between Georgia and Abkhazia unless this damage is redressed.

Deputy Interior Minister Gventsadze Dismissed

LD2610153194 Tbilisi IPRINDA in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi (IPRINDA)—It has become known that on 25 October, at the edict of Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of the Georgian state, Roman Gventsadze, the deputy interior minister of Georgia was released from his post. The edict says that in the past, at the order of the Georgian head of state, Roman Gventsadze was sent on duty to Guria (west Georgia) in connection with a heavy criminal situation there. However, Gventsadze did not fulfill the task incumbent on him.

Shevardnadze Refuses TV Debate With Hunger Striker

LD2610161194 Tbilisi SAKINFORM in Russian 1116 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] [No dateline as received]—Representatives of the conservative faction urged Eduard Shevardnadze at a session of the Georgian parliament yesterday to meet a demand by Deputy Temur Zhorzholiani, the leader of the Georgian Conservative-Monarchist Party who is on hunger strike, to take part in a live television debate with him. Shevardnadze responded by saying that he has no time for television debates and that the best place for debate is parliament, whose sessions are relayed by television.

Mkhedrioni Building Blown Up in Telavi

LD2710060094 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0530 GMT 27 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In Telavi, in western Georgia, an explosion has occurred in the building of the local branch of the "Mkhedrioni" organization. The three-story building was completely destroyed, but the fifteen people who were inside were not hurt.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Estonia

Diplomatic Ties Established with Uzbekistan

LD2610200394 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1500 GMT 26 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] An exchange of notes has completed the establishment of Estonian-Uzbek diplomatic relations. As there is no diplomatic representative office of Estonia in Uzbekistan or of Uzbekistan in Estonia, communication is to take place through embassies in Moscow and directly through their foreign ministries. In the economic field, Estonia is interested in importing raw materials, especially cotton, from Uzbekistan, while Uzbekistan is interested in Estonia's ports.

Among the CIS members, Estonia has not yet established diplomatic relations with Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Estonia has opened embassies in two CIS states, in Russia and Ukraine. Estonia has consular offices in St. Petersburg and Pskov and the Foreign Ministry is planning to open a consulate in Minsk.

Jordanian-Israeli Treaty Deemed 'Important Step'

WS2710092794 Tallinn Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release in English 0744 GMT 27 Oct 94

[Statement released by the Estonian Foreign Affairs Ministry in Tallinn on 26 October—received via Internet E-LIST]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia welcomes the conclusion of the peace treaty between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is convinced that this treaty will greatly contribute to permanent peace in the region.

The Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pleased to note that the securing of peace has progressed in the interests of all peoples of the region, and calls on the governments of the states of the region not to allow the peace process to be interrupted by terrorist groups.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia congratulates all those whose efforts contributed to this important step towards a lasting peace in the Middle East, and hopes that this notable achievement will be taken as an example in the resolution of conflicts throughout the world.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.